

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Rebirth of a nation
Out of the ashes of the
Civil War and Franco's
rule, culture is beginning
to flower again in Spain
The quick...
Wednesday Page meets a
jet-setting fast lady
(below)



...and the dead
Bernard Levin on the
dignity due to ancient
bones
Splice...
A taxing problem: the
cost of matrimony
...the mainbrace
David Miller on the
Yachtsman of the Year

Revenue suspends 400 staff

The Inland Revenue last night suspended without pay almost 400 staff in tax offices in the West Midlands in the dispute over the computerization of PAYE. The union is going to the High Court tomorrow to try to restrain the revenue from suspending staff who refuse to use the computers.

Unrest grows, page 4

EEC warning

Mr Poul Dalsager, the Agriculture Commissioner, said in Brussels that the EEC faced bankruptcy before the summer unless "major surgery" was applied to the common agricultural policy.

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Benn prediction

One of Mr Wedgwood Benn's key supporters in Chesterfield Labour Party predicts that the voting in next Sunday's election of a candidate for the by-election in March will be very close.

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US aide lied

President Reagan's information director, Mr Charles Wick, has apologized for secretly recording telephone conversations and admitted that he lied.

Back page



Nuclear pact

Britain will sign a deal today with France, Italy, West Germany, Belgium and The Netherlands, committing it to joint development of fast breeder reactor technology.

Page 13

Royal tumble

It was the first day of their skiing holiday in Liechtenstein yesterday for the Prince and Princess of Wales. The Princess took a fall.

Back page

Architect dies

Sir Frederick Gibberd, whose designs included the Liverpool Roman Catholic Cathedral, died yesterday aged 76.

Obituary, page 12

Leader page 11
Letters: On the economy, from Lord Kaldor; Welsh's plan, station, from Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos and others; archives, from Dr C. J. Currie.
Leading articles: Jordan Parliament; Broadcasting technology; Acid rain.
Features, pages 8-10
Sir Alfred Sherman analyses the Kissinger report on Central America; Pretoria's as-battle tactics in Angola; Robin Cook MP on a minus benefit.
Spectrum: Jan Morris in Peking. Fashion: spinning a yarn.
Computer Horizons, pages 14-15
The ready-to-wear computerized suit, plus more details of the National Computer Competition.
Obituary, page 12
Sir Frederick Gibberd, Mr Ronald Lewin.

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Fowler cash boost for poorer health regions

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Nine English regions of the National Health Service will have growth in real terms ranging from 0.8 per cent on Merseyside to 1.9 per cent in East Anglia, in the coming financial year.

But the four Thames regions, which cover the South-east from Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex to the south coast, face an effective spending freeze under government plans announced yesterday.

No stated targets have been set for efficiency savings in 1984-85, nor for manpower after the Government's cut of almost 5,000 health service jobs last autumn. But health ministers made it clear yesterday that they will expect efficiency savings of at least 0.5 per cent from districts as part of a "substantial and sustained cost improvement programme".

Any bids for extra jobs will have to be justified in detail. Health authorities will have to show that they will improve services to patients and that the new staff cannot be off-set by cutting jobs elsewhere, a policy that in practice is likely to mean little or no growth in health service manpower.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday that he would have no hesitation in rejecting plans that did not meet these requirements.

Under the Government's spending plans, an extra £400m is to be spent on hospital and community service. That is about 1 per cent in real terms or £83m, after allowing for a 5 per cent rise in prices and 3 per cent in wages, assumptions one health authority yesterday branded as "optimistic".

Capital spending is to rise by £50m or 7 per cent. The increase will broadly match the 1 per cent a year needed to cope with the growing number of elderly but money to develop priority services for the mentally ill and handicapped and to keep pace with medical advance will all have to come from savings in existing services.

Regional Health Authority	Growth (Estm)	% Gr in real terms
Northern	8	1.4
Yorkshire	12	1.3
Trent	6	1.9
East Anglian	0	0.0
North-west Thames	0	0.0
North-east Thames	0	0.0
South-east Thames	0	0.0
South-west Thames	0	0.0
Westsex	9	1.8
Oxford	6	1.7
South-western	12	1.4
West Midlands	10	1.3
Mersey	10	0.8
TOTAL	83	1.0

*After allowing for 5% rise in prices and 3% pay

The Thames regions, which will receive extra cash to cover the Government's assumptions on pay and prices, but no real growth, will face the greatest difficulties, having to make further cuts and savings in their acute hospital services to meet growing demands from the elderly and to develop their priority services.

The biggest growth goes to regions such as East Anglia, Wessex and Oxford, which have growing populations, and to the traditionally "under funded" regions.

But ministers have not redistributed money from the

Thames regions to other parts of the country as vigorously as they might. Under long-term government plans, the Thames authorities could have expected cuts in real terms of between 0.3 per cent and 0.5 per cent, rather than a standstill. With growing protests over the effects of waiting and bed closures, ministers have accepted that they are under financial pressure and have slightly slowed the rate of redistribution.

Announcing the allocations, Mr Norman Fowler, said the 1 per cent growth plus the "cost improvement programme" would release resources for new developments. "Health authorities should be able to take up new medical advances and continue to improve, for instance, services for the mentally ill and handicapped and for renal failure and hip replacement."

Several of the regions said the growth figures were much as expected, and were pleasantly surprised. (Staff Reporters write). The response, region by region was:

Northern: Mr Robert Hunt, the treasurer, said it had expected to get just over 1 per cent growth and the 1.4 per cent actually awarded will mean about £2m more than anticipated.

Yorkshire: Mr Neville Jackson, regional information officer, said the 1.3 per cent allocation.

Continued on back page, col 6

Thatcher stands firm against Tory council rate rebels

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Two such Conservative councillors opposing the Government's "rate-capping" plans failed to win concessions from the Prime Minister last night.

Mr John Lovell, leader of the Conservative-dominated Association of County Councils, said before meeting Mrs Margaret Thatcher that the association wanted MPs to vote against the plans.

When he emerged he quickly scrapped a prepared statement opposing rate-capping and refused to discuss the meeting. Mr Roger Parker-Jervis, leader of Buckinghamshire County Council, one of the most determined opponents of rate-capping, repeated, "Family meeting" several times and refused to comment further.

Mrs Thatcher, was not left isolated among her critics at yesterday's meeting. The guest list had been vetted by ministers at the Department of the Environment, who will use the rate-capping powers if Parliament accepts them, and the 13 invited councillors included strong supporters of the Rates Bill as well as opponents.

Complaints that rate-capping would enable ministers to usurp the powers of local government came mainly from the shires. Support for the Bill often comes from Conservatives in minority opposition to high-spending Labour councillors.

Mr Patrick would not comment on the meeting but said: "I think a Bill like this is the only salvation for an area like south Yorkshire."

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday joined other senior ministers who are now putting the case for the Bill (Our Political Editor writes).

He echoed the assertion by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, on Friday that high rates destroyed jobs.

Mr Lawson denied accusations that the Government's proposals represented an



Mr Brittan: View on rates echoed by Chancellor.

attack on local democracy, and asked if it could be seriously suggested that the Government should be oblivious to the economic effect of crushing levels of local taxation.

Mr Lawson, in a message to the management committee of his Blaby constituency association, said the rate-capping proposals were rooted in two legitimate concerns of central government - the overall levels of taxation and public spending.

"There is no essential difference between rates and taxes," he said. "They both preempt resources... they dry up funds that could be used to boost investment and jobs."

He said "responsible" authorities had nothing to fear from proposals designed to protect the ratepayer from the "profligate" ones.

Essex County Council, one of the conservative-controlled councils which in the past has kept its spending in line with government wishes, seems likely to exceed its government target during the coming financial year (Davis Cross writes).

If the expected level of expenditure remains unchanged when the next budget is approved at the end of next month, the council will incur a penalty of £7.3m.

Benefit cuts under review

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Social security ministers are to reconsider the shape of the government's planned £230m cut in housing benefits after criticism of the proposals from the Social Security Advisory Committee and opposition from Conservative backbenchers.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, is committed to the £230m cut announced as part of the Chancellor's autumn package. He believes the money is best saved there rather than from

other parts of the social security system.

Ministers are, however, to examine the package to see if some of the growing criticism at the impact of the cuts can be answered.

Conservative backbenchers have particularly criticized its effects on pensioners, some of whom will lose between £4 and £5 a week, and more than 1,250,000 of whom will suffer some loss.

The committee has also been against the decision not to pay

benefit if it is less than £1 for rent and 50p for rates, saying such a cut would go beyond administrative convenience, amounting to more than two weeks worth of standard retirement pension for someone who loses the whole amount.

The committee has also argued that despite ministers' claims that only the better off would be affected, about 38,000 families below the needs allowance of £43.05 a week for a single person and £63.50 a week for couples will lose up to 99p a week.

Republicans tell Reagan to rethink budget

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan is being urged by senior advisers to reconsider his budget for fiscal 1985, which he has sent to Congress by the end of this month. Preliminary figures, circulated on Capitol Hill last week, provoked angry reactions from Republican as well as Democratic congressmen.

A group of senior Republicans led by Mr Robert Michel, the House minority leader, and Senators Robert Dole and Pete Domenici, chairmen of the Senate Finance and Budget committees respectively, has told the President that his budget proposals would enjoy the support of about 50

Republican congressmen at most.

They said that an overwhelming majority of Republicans fear that the President's plans for an additional \$8bn (£5.7bn) cut in social programmes, while at the same time raising defence spending by a further 13 per cent, would have a seriously adverse effect on public opinion and could lose both the President and Republican candidates vital votes in the November elections.

They pointed out that the Democrats have already made clear their intention to make the budget, and in particular the

continuing huge deficits, one of the main themes of their election campaign.

According to preliminary figures from the Office of Management and Budget, the fiscal 1985 deficit will amount to between \$185bn and \$197bn if the President goes ahead with his existing budget plan.

The same forecasts show that the deficit would still be in the region of \$200bn by the time President Reagan ended his expected second term in 1988.

The pressure which is now being brought to bear on the President to amend his plans

means he will have to face some unpleasant choices.

He will either have to retreat on the planned cuts in domestic spending, reduce the proposed increase in defence spending, agree to an increase in taxes, or simply prepare himself to live with enormous deficit projections.

It has become clear that the budget figures were deliberately leaked on Capitol Hill last week to drum up the sort of congressional opposition now generated. This, it is hoped, will strengthen the hand of those within the Administration who are urging the President to come up with revised figures.

Woman, 23, accused of being 'mole'

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

A young woman clerk at the Foreign Office was yesterday charged under the Official Secrets Act with sending to The Guardian a copy of a confidential government memorandum on the arrival of cruise missiles in Britain.

Scotland Yard said Sarah Caroline Tisdall, aged 23, of south London, will appear at Bow Street magistrate's court this morning.

She is accused that "you being a person holding office under Her Majesty did on or after October 21, 1983, within the jurisdiction of the Central Criminal Court communicate classified information entrusted to you to another person to whom you were not authorized to communicate such information contrary to Section Two of the Official Secrets Act, 1911."

According to the Diplomatic Service List Miss Tisdall joined the Foreign Office in July, 1980. She is Grade 10.

West Bank to have 30 MPs in Jordan

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Jordan opened a controversial new avenue towards breaking the dangerous stalemate in the Middle East by announcing yesterday that it would allow the first time in nearly a decade to allow the appointment of 30 new members from the occupied West Bank.

The move by King Hussein in direct defiance of Syrian opposition, was seen as a signal pressuring Mr Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Liberation Organization, to resume talks broken off last April, and to enable the million East Bank Jordanians to resume a normal political life after a gap of more than two years.

Heavy security was mounted in and around the parliament building after accusations from Syria and radical PLO factions that the recall was in connection of the 1974 Rabat summit, which declared the PLO "the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Miners' union suspends rebellious strikers

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders last night closed ranks in support of their national overtime ban, now in its eleventh week, and disciplined rebel winding engineers in Staffordshire who yesterday staged a one-day strike against union strategy.

More than 40 men who wind the cages in pits near Stoke-on-Trent have been suspended from the National Union of Mineworkers until a month after the present industrial action ends. But the revolt against the overtime ban has now spread to other moderate coalfields in Durham, Cumbria and Leicestershire, and threatens to split the union.

The union's national executive meets in Sheffield in two days' time to determine its next step in the drawn-out pay dispute. Right-wing area leaders are to press for a secret pithead ballot on the National Coal Board's "deal" 5.2 per cent pay offer and on continuation of the limited sanctions, already in force which have cost the men more than £30m in lost wages.

But Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the union, last night accused Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the GMB Board, of "virtually destroying industrial relations" within the industry and argued that the overtime ban should force the board back to the negotiating table.

The winding engineers' action has brought to a head a long-simmering hostility among the better-paid miners, who have been losing up to £100 a week through the industrial action in support of a claim for "substantial" wage rises for 190,000 pitmen.

Mr Trevor Bell, secretary of the union's white-collar group yesterday, promised in a press interview to support any proposals for a ballot at the Sheffield meeting.

Mrs Christine Postill, aged 37, whose husband works at Woolley pit, near Barnsley, plans to sue Mr Scargill for lost wages caused by the overtime ban. Go-ahead for pit, page 3

French soldier killed in Beirut fighting

Beirut (Reuters) - One French paratrooper was killed and another wounded when gunmen fired a rocket-propelled grenade and automatic weapons at an observation post of the French military headquarters in Beirut.

Colonel Philippe de Longueval said the attack was so swift the paratroops did not have time to return fire. Beirut radio had earlier reported that a bomb had exploded near the French headquarters. It said the second explosion was caused by a dynamite buried at a pharmacy in Muslim west Beirut.

Howe hospital, page 6

Shares at record as pound slumps

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Derek Pain

Shares surged to a record on the Stock Exchange yesterday with the FT 30 share index, the market's main indicator, closing at 290 points exactly.

But, since again starting yesterday, there is strong US dollar on the foreign exchange market. At one time it fell to \$1.2910 - the first time it has slipped below \$1.40 - before recovering to \$1.4050.

Shares, encouraged by growing optimism about the British economy, have been stretched to new highs for a month. The already healthy City talk that the FT index will break through 1,000 points before the end of the year.

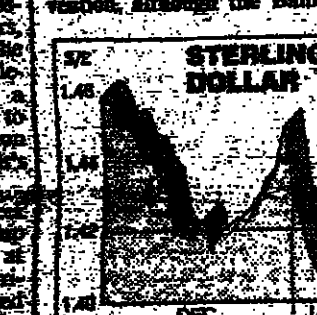
The index has grown in the world's leading stock markets that the long recession is coming to an end. Recent economic news from the United States has only served to intensify the optimism.

When the London stock market opened the FT index, based on 30 leading shares ranging from Allied-Lyons to Vickers, jumped 7.6 points to 281.9. One factor behind the gain was share gains in the weekend newspapers.

When the large institutional investors remained on the sidelines the index lost some of its momentum. Before a late buying flurry, partly inspired by the news that Wall Street opened, drove the index back to 290.

Meanwhile, yesterday, the dollar powered ahead after opening well above its pre-weekend levels on the foreign exchange market. Intervention by the West German central bank and profit-taking stemmed the rise but it still closed well up on the day.

The Government remains firmly against extensive intervention, although the Bank of



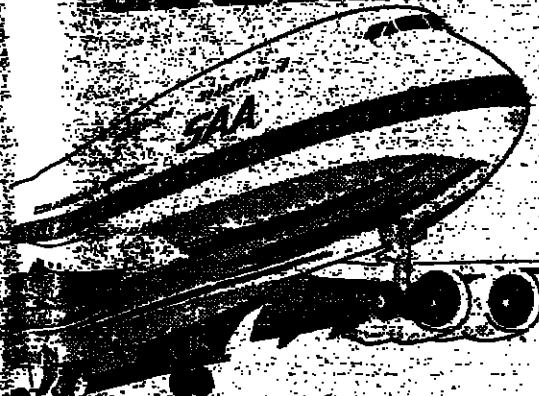
England was thought to be steady. Sterling yesterday when the dollar advanced passed below \$1.40.

At one time it touched \$1.3910 and its trade-weighted value fell to \$1.4, the lowest since last April. But sterling has been firm against other currencies.

It closed slightly higher against the French franc and German mark and after recovering to close only 20 points down against the dollar at \$1.4050, its trade-weighted value ended unchanged at \$1.7.

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Go-ahead for £400m pit in Vale of Belvoir will create 1,100 jobs

By Andrew Cornall

The Government yesterday approved the £400m development of the Asfordby coal mine in the Vale of Belvoir, Leicestershire, which will create 1,100 jobs by the early 1990s.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, gave the go-ahead to the mine, which is being developed by the National Coal Board (NCB). The mine is situated in the Vale of Belvoir, Leicestershire, and is expected to produce 1.5 million tonnes of coal per year.

Settlement of the dispute was a matter for negotiation by the management and unions, Mr Walker said. However, he said that the Government had made large investments in the coal industry and wanted it to succeed.

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, welcomed the Government decision to support the Vale of Belvoir project. He said that the mine would provide a valuable source of coal for the country.

There has been a long history of effective cooperation between the management and the miners in the coalfield, he said. "It is this spirit that has given the coal board the confidence to go ahead."

The Vale of Belvoir project is the biggest development by the coal industry since the announcement of the Selby coalfield development in Yorkshire. It will mean 500 new jobs in the north Leicestershire area over the next five years and 1,100 jobs when the field is fully operational after eight years.

It will produce 2.2 million tonnes of low-cost coal for power stations each year. The project will help to offset the effect of 3,300 job losses at the mines that are due to close in north-east Leicestershire over the next few years.

The coal board is already working on plans for the development of two other coalfields in the Vale of Belvoir. It was instructed to submit separate applications for the developments after strong objections from conservationists who fear that the projects will destroy an area of scenic beauty.

Yesterday, 1,500 miners were on strike because of the one-day strike by miners, to counter the lifting gear at mines, at five collieries in north Staffordshire and one in Cumbria.

The coal board said the 12,000 shifts were lost as a result of the combined effect of the strike and the weather.

Mr Walker declined to comment on the dispute. He said that the mine was the second best in the country. "Apart from Fleetwood, there is no other mine that is better paid," he said.

Mr Walker also said that the Government had never considered the coal industry as a whole. He said that the Government had a commitment to the coal industry and was investing in it at a rate of a day since 1974.

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Fortunes await PA's lost shareholders New maths tests to be developed

By Colin Hughes

The national news agency, the Press Association (PA), is launching a national advertising campaign to find four of its shareholders, who could become overnight multi-millionaires.

The shares fell "derelict" when their nineteenth-century owners failed to pass them on to their newspapers, and no one knows where to find the descendants who own them.

Unwitting descendants of the four owners and editors who took shares in the PA when it was set up by 120 newspaper proprietors in 1868 are in line for a fortune.

The PA owns 41 per cent of Reuters, the international news agency, which is expected to be floated on the Stock Exchange in the spring at an estimated value of £1,000m. Each 100 shares in the PA could then be worth £1m.

Mr Jack Purdum, financial controller of the PA, said yesterday that letters had been written to the most recent addresses of the people who owned the 1,800 missing shares. "We have never had a reply, partly because we lost track of some of these people about 100 years ago."

"There has never been any special reason for these people to reply before because we have never paid a dividend, but now they stand to make a lot of money."

The owners of the 1,800 missing shares took them out in 1868 in their own names, unlike the majority of the shareholders, who passed them on to their companies.

"We have no idea where the heirs to these shares might be," Mr Purdum said.

Mrs Thatcher was commenting on the remarkable success of a company which was expanding into its own 100,000 sq ft factory in Peterborough. A company that moved into a 40,000 sq ft advance factory only five years ago.

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Education Correspondent

A grant of £154,000 has been given to Chelsea College, London University, to develop mathematics tests similar to the kind advocated by Sir Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, in a speech last week.

The money from the Nuffield Foundation will be used to work out a batch of "assessment tests" for children to do at different levels at their own pace.

The scheme is a joint project between the Centre for Science and Maths Education at Chelsea College, the Inner London Education Authority, and the University of London GCE examination board.

Called "Graded Assessment in Maths" (GAIM), the aim of the project is to cater for children aged from 11 to 16, of all abilities and to link one of the levels to a GCE O level (grades A to C) or a CSE grade.

Dr Margaret Brown, the project's director, wants the tests to cover a broad range of mathematical skills, including practical and oral ability, problem solving, and investigations.

Graded tests are also being developed in English, science and craft, and design and technology.

Outside London the same thing is being done by the Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations in conjunction with some local authorities and in the Midlands under the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

There was a muted, if not sketched, reaction from Sir Keith's special advisers, in which he called for the new kinds of examinations. They pointed out that his idea involved setting up a series of hurdles in each subject and if the aim was to set a minimum standard in each one, that would probably have to be pitched very low.

They said the logic of Sir Keith's position was the abolition of traditional examinations at the age of 16.

Bill Flanagan, aged 47, a draughtsman, leader of the Peterborough Borough Council, having been first elected in 1971. He has been a NUPE, CNE, SEPTU, a branch of GMBATU and the Dunston ward of the party. Married.

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Acid rain

Chesterfield by-election

Benn aide predicts close finish

From Anthony Davies, Political Correspondent, Chesterfield

One of Mr Wedgwood Benn's key supporters in the Chesterfield Labour Party predicted yesterday that next Sunday's election of the party candidate for the March by-election would be extremely close.

Mr Thomas Vallins, a member of the general committee which is to make the selection, said: "I do not dare make a prediction. I am quietly optimistic, but it is going to be very, very close."

Mr Vallins is portrayed by Labour's soft-left and centre-right, both at Westminster and in Chesterfield, as the mechanic who has engineered Mr Benn's Derbyshire debut.

Some surprise has been expressed that the caretaker of the National Union of Mineworkers' Derbyshire area headquarters should be campaigning so openly for Mr Benn when the union has sponsored a pit worker, Mr Clifford Fox, as its official nominee.

But Mr Vallins, who came to Chesterfield from Croydon three years ago, is a member of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, not the NUM, and is a GMBATU delegate on the general committee.

Asked about his key role in Mr Benn's selection campaign, Mr Vallins said yesterday: "I was on the trade union liaison committee. When nominations were being asked for several union branches set up an organisation to invite a number of candidates along so that everybody got an opportunity to see who was available."

That committee was responsible for the invitations sent to Mr Benn and to the former

Labour MP's Mr Phillip Whitehead and Miss Joan Lester.

Mr Vallins added: "All we were trying to do before nominations began was to make sure that people had a fair hearing and to show that it was not a biased campaign, which is what we are trying to do now."

But some of Mr Benn's opponents are already complaining bitterly about his "presidential" television campaign and last Sunday's general committee meeting agreed that all candidates should be asked to call a truce on further campaigning this week.

Mr Benn, however, has already arranged two meetings in the area this week.

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Computers to 'talk' in English

A British-researched computer program that enables computers to understand plain English was launched in London yesterday.

Microdata, Information Services says it has beaten the big companies IBM and ICL with the launch of its Natural Language Program, which is intended to end the need for complex programming to get answers from computers.

The new software package, developed mainly at the company's research centre in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, has been launched six months ahead of schedule and will be available in Britain before the United States.

A company official said that the time taken to write and test programs meant that, although the computer took only a fraction of a second to deal with the problem, businessmen might have to wait as much as a week to get the answers they wanted from a busy computer.

The new program would mean a businessman could ask the computer a question using a desk-top terminal. He said: "We want to make computers friendlier and easier to use."

Mr Alan Bellinger, who headed the development team, said the new software was unique: it enabled the computer to learn the idiosyncracies of a user's language.

Microdata, part of the American aerospace corporation McDonnell Douglas, says the English Language software is just a step on the way to its eventual goal of producing computers that will be able to hold conversations with people.

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Long-term acid rain research promised

By John Young

There is evidence of an increase in rainfall acidity in the United Kingdom, but lack of research data precludes any detailed identification of its sources, a report published yesterday suggests. But it calls for more long-term monitoring.

The report, prepared by the Government's Warren Spring Laboratory, in Stevenage, for the Department of the Environment, adopts an extremely cautious attitude to the whole question and makes no attempt to discuss the possible effects of the deposition of pollutants.

It has been described as "disappointing" by the Friends of the Earth environmentalist group, which has been in the forefront of the campaign against acid rain.

The report suggests that evidence of sulphur dioxide, mostly from coal and oil-fired power stations, factories, and refineries, are becoming relatively less of a problem than increases of nitrate concentrations.

Both have increased considerably this century, but sulphur dioxide emissions, which rose steadily from the middle of the nineteenth century, interrupted only by the depression of the early 1930s, are said to have reached a peak in the mid-1960s and to have declined since 1970.

Although emissions in Europe, excluding the Soviet Union, doubled between 1950 and 1970, the report says, the increase in Britain, East and West Germany, Norway, and Sweden, show big decreases since 1972.

Nitrogen oxides, however, continued to increase at least until 1980, largely due to greater use of oil. Agricultural emissions from fertilizers are not thought to account for more than 5 per cent of the total, and these from motor vehicle exhausts for only about a quarter.

Damage to trees, especially in West German forests, is widespread, possibly due to acid rain and dry deposits of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide, the report says. But a causal link between deposited acidity and forest effects has yet to be demonstrated.

In Britain, the areas receiving the largest inputs of acidity are Cumbria and the west central Highlands and southern uplands of Scotland.

The Government responded to the report yesterday with a commitment to fund further long-term research, but Friends of the Earth described that as "utterly inadequate" and claimed that Britain, which "exported" three-quarters of its sulphur emissions, was in danger of becoming "the dirty man of Europe".

Acid Deposition in the United Kingdom (Warren Spring Laboratory, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire SG1 2BX; £10).

Leading article, page 11

Speelman retains chess lead

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent Hastings

With a quick draw in eighteen moves against the Romanian grandmaster Suba, Jonathan Speelman retained the lead at the end of round 11 in the Jace Grandmaster Tournament at the Hastings International Chess Congress.

His chief rival, the Swedish grandmaster Karlsson, adjourned his game against Coom in that round in the somewhat inferior position.

Scores at the end of round eleven: Speelman 7½; Karlsson 6½; and one adjourned; Martin and Metel 6 and one adjourned; Suba 6; Pincus and Hebdon 5½ and one adjourned; Coom 5 and one adjourned.

Adjournd games results, round 10: Albert 6 Speelman 1, 66; Metel 1 Short 0, 63.

Results in round eleven: Short 1 Albert 0, Alekhine's defence, 36 moves; Gurevich 4 and one adjourned; Suba 3½ and one adjourned; Albert 3½.

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Mother assaulted doctor who failed to diagnose illness that killed her son

By Michael Horswell

The grieving mother of a boy aged eight who died from meningitis twice assaulted the doctor who had been convicted of negligence for his handling of the case, a court was told yesterday.

Maureen Winn, aged 36, a housewife, of Radley Terrace, Canning Town, east London, was charged with the failure of the General Medical Council (GMC) to strike Dr Oliver Archer off its register after confirming his negligence.

Mr Nigel Spearling, Labour MP for Newham South, is planning a private members' Bill to increase patients' recourse against negligent doctors. Judge Burkett Baker, QC, said that the court would not comment on the decisions made by professional bodies, but sympathized with the bereavement Winn had suffered.

At Snaresbrook Crown Court she was given an absolute discharge on a charge of assaulting Dr Archer on April 27, last year, but a conditional discharge for two years for causing actual bodily harm on July 14, Maxine Winn, aged 18, her daughter, was given a conditional discharge for assaulting Dr Mary Lavelle and Mrs Sylvia Hannah, a receptionist, on July 20.

Both had admitted charges of actual bodily harm. Winn said afterwards: "I am relieved, but I still think there is one law for us and one for them, the doctors."

"I have lost a son, the doctor has lost nothing, and there is nothing I can do to beat the man. The only thing I can do is to rely on the MP to change the law so that nobody else suffers."

Alfie Winn, who died in January 1982, was the official club mascot of West Ham United Football Club. Five days before the death, Dr Archer had diagnosed a bronchial problem and prescribed antibiotics.

Mr David Whitehouse, for the defence, said: "Until January 9, 1982, Alfie was a healthy, soccer-mad eight-year-old. He was the intensely beloved son of Mrs Winn."

One night he was ill and by the next morning he was delirious. His mother attempted to contact the doctor at 8 o'clock the next morning. After visiting the surgery she found her son in a deep sleep and with a temperature of 106F. After some difficulty in alerting the surgery Mrs Winn was

visited by Dr Archer three hours later.

But Mr Whitehouse said, his examination was cursory and he did not believe what the woman told him.

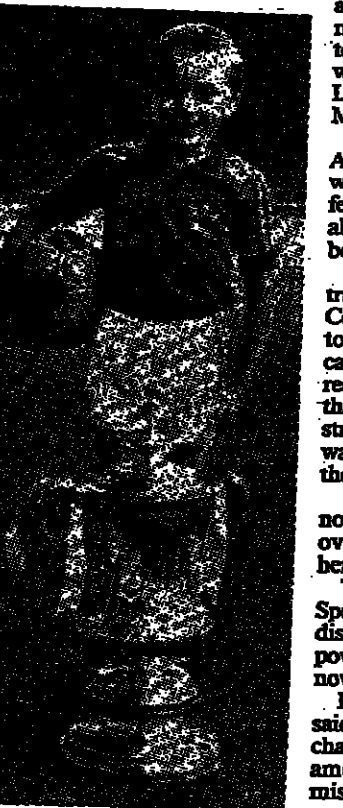
"We now know he almost certainly was in a coma at the time, but the doctor carried out a superficial examination and asked him to open his mouth," Mr Whitehouse said. "Mrs Winn said 'He can't hear you'. Dr Archer responded 'If he cannot be bothered to open his bloody mouth I shall not bloody well look in'."

Dr Archer diagnosed congestion of the lungs and prescribed antibiotics. Two hours later Mrs Winn called an ambulance.

On July 1, 1982, the City and East London Family Practitioners' Committee censured Dr Archer and recommended that £1,000 be stopped from his pay.

The Secretary of State for Social Services accepted the recommendation and referred the case to the General Medical Council, which upheld the charges of negligence but decided that he was not guilty of serious professional misconduct.

Incented that the doctor



Alfie Winn: Mascot at West Ham United.

should continue to practice. Winn took the law into her own hands. On April 27, the boy's birthday, she visited the surgery, which she does every day. Then she went to the surgery in Coolfin Road, Canning Town, east London, and entered Dr Archer's room.

Claiming that the doctor had admitted to her that he had lied to the professional bodies in order to save his job, Winn assaulted him and the police were called, although Dr Archer refused to prosecute.

A second assault happened after Winn had been advised that she could take no further legal steps to get Dr Archer struck off.

Then, on July 20, the family received a letter saying that Dr Lavelle, senior partner at the surgery, was requesting that Mr Roy Winn, Winn's husband, should be removed from her list; the rest of the family had already changed doctors.

With the letter was a national health card, which bore the initials A instead of R. That Winn took to be "a calculated and callous insult to the memory of her son."

With her daughter she went to the surgery. There Dr Lavelle allegedly said in an unguarded moment that she was uninterested in Alfie's case. Maxine was so incensed she struck Dr Lavelle and then she attacked Mrs Hannah, the receptionist.

Mr Whitehouse said that Dr Archer had declined to be a witness in the case because he felt he would be cross-examined about his treatment of the dead boy.

Mrs Gwen Davey, a magistrate and secretary of Newham Community Health Service, told the court: "Mrs Winn's case is the most serious I have received in eight years. She said that she wanted Dr Archer struck off because she did not want other people to suffer in the same way."

"It appears to me justice was not done. Mrs Winn has been overwhelmed by the events of her son's death."

The court was told that Mr Spearling believed the case had disclosed a grave lacuna in the powers of the GMC, and he now proposed a Bill to rectify it. In a statement to the court he said: "When the GMC find charges proved which do not amount to serious professional misconduct they have no powers to order punishment or supervision of the offending doctor."

Poet's chintzy bohemia in a Town



Blue plaque no 478: Mrs Caitlin Thomas-Fazio, Dylan Thomas's widow (right) and Thomas Ellis, after unveiling the GLC's tribute to the poet in Camden yesterday.

By Alan Hamilton

The gypsy existence of Dylan Thomas in London has finally been pinned down to a modest terrace house in Camden Town, where he lived just long enough to have a commemorative blue plaque unveiled yesterday by his widow.

Thomas, as befitted his mercurial Celtic genius, never owned a house nor stayed anywhere for long. The temporary home at 54 Delancey Street, in the deep hinterland of Euston station, was provided by Mr Margaret Taylor, the wife of an Oxford don who became the nearest thing Thomas ever had to a patron.

His daughter Mrs Aeronwy Thomas Ellis recalled yesterday that the Thomas family had lived there for about a year in 1952. "It was decorated throughout by Margaret

Taylor in a riot of chintz, a real floral cornucopia." The present owner has allowed the Thomas family basement to slide into disuse.

Mrs Taylor also provided, appropriately, a Roman caravan in the back garden so that Thomas could fashion his words away from the clamour of his children, but he found it too cold and damp.

His widow, Mrs Caitlin Thomas-Fazio, who has remarried and now lives in Sicily, could recall little of the detail of domestic life in Camden, but she retained a memory of distant warmth.

"It is with mixed feelings of my wonderful Bohemian past and my present dull attempt at respectability, of being a model of squareness, that I place this plaque on our once worldly living and loving home, in loving memory of my irreplaceable Dylan".

Bribes claim as GP is accused

A doctor's failure to see two patients, one of whom died, led to claims, offers of bribes, and a medical disciplinary hearing in London was told yesterday.

Dr Sharangdar Prasad, aged 58, of Edgheast, Birmingham, faces charges of serious professional misconduct. They are that he failed, in October, 1979, to visit and treat Mrs Refil Alam, of Handsworth, who was passing blood, and, in March and April, 1981, failed to visit and treat or arrange treatment for Mr Kartar Singh Sagoo, also of Handsworth. He died on April 2, 1981.

Mr Richard Knell, for the General Medical Council's professional conduct committee, said that Mr Alam and his family were threatened and offered £600 and gifts by two people. The hearing continues.

Labour in clash over

The leader of a Labour-controlled education authority clashed yesterday with the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment over the case of three brothers who have not attended school since October.

Mr Philip Squire, chairman of mid-Glamorgan education committee, said that Mr Scott, education secretary of the Society, was "just not living in the real world" in advocating an end to caning in schools. Solicitors acting for the boys

have reported the case to the European Commission on Human Rights, which is expected to uphold a ruling that parental objections to corporal punishment must be respected.

The three brothers, Stuart, aged 15, Christopher, aged 14, and Stuart, aged 13, spent yesterday watching television at their home in Llanidloes, mid-Glamorgan. They have not attended school since Christopher

was struck by the cane on his back for failing to report a friend for misbehaving. Mrs Janice Williams withdrew them from school after refusing to agree to a headmaster's demand that they should not be back.

Mr Squire said yesterday: "We have to resort to the law. It is degrading and I will take my boys to court on Wednesday or Thursday. I expect they will be back again."

Prescribing A Suitable Case for Treatment, Occasional Paper 24 (Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE, £3.95, inc postage).

Doctors gain ground over deputies rule

Proposed restrictions on the use of deputizing services by family doctors to cover night and weekend calls will be reconsidered if GPs can produce effective arguments against them, Mr Kenneth Clarke said yesterday.

But he made clear that he will not allow them to use the services every night and weekend as some now do, and that he considers his own proposals flexible, despite doctors' condemnation of them as unacceptable and impracticable.

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Company to cash in on leisure

By Jonathan Clare

A company has been launched with the support of the English Tourist Board to invest millions of pounds in the leisure industry to help to cope with the expected increase in free time.

Although the inspiration came from the tourist board it will maintain an arms-length relationship with the new company, Leisure Development, which is wholly funded by the private sector through five big institutions.

Leisure Development's board, which includes Mr Walter Goldsmith, director

general of the Institute of Directors, and Mr John Knight, former finance director of the Playboy Group, has already identified six possible acquisitions.

It expects to invest in seven broad areas: health, hydro, country clubs, fitness, centres and dance studios, hotels, holiday villages, time-share developments, and "theme" restaurants.

In particular Mr Robert Updell, the chief executive, believes that increasing interest in health together with more

leisure time will mean a boom for health farms.

Yesterday he said that he was not interested in old-fashioned "fat farms" but health hydro where people want to relax and get fit.

He pointed out that of all the present hydro only two were in the hands of big companies - Champneys, owned by Eagle Star, the insurance group, and Forest Mere, owned by The Savoy Hotel.

Mr Updell said that there was much scope to invest in and aggressively manage the many hydro in private hands.

Fewer attend classical concerts

By David Hewson

The London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Philharmonia are the capital's favourite orchestras according to figures published by the London Orchestral Concert Board yesterday showing that both achieved audiences as high as 76 per cent of capacity between April, 1982, and last March.

But the Philharmonia's two concerts at the Royal Albert Hall attracted the lowest turnout of the year, 31 per cent, according to the board, which subsidizes the capital's four main orchestras.

The board's annual report documents a general decline in classical music audiences, although the Greater London Council says that the South Bank has experienced a revival in popularity in the period after the figures end.

The worst fall was at the Barbican where audiences for the London Symphony Orches-

trons dropped by nearly a third.

"Some of this may have been because the original novelty had worn off, some because certain programmes were more strange or challenging than usual, some because there were perhaps too many repeats, some because the total London audience for

orchestral concerts may not yet stretch to a highly capacity of 5,000 seats," the report says.

Average attendance at concerts subsidized by the board, excluding the LSO - Barbican seasons, was 65 per cent compared with 68 per cent in the previous year.

Man's diaries told of badger hunts

By Craig Seton

An alleged poacher kept detailed diaries of all his hunting trips and told police officers who raided his house that he had made enough money "at this game" to pay for his house, Totnes Magistrates' Court in Devon was told yesterday.

The magistrates were told that the case against Christopher Newton, aged 30, self-employed, of Plymouth, was unusual because the allegations against him of illegally taking, killing, or cruelly ill-treating badgers were based entirely on four diaries found at his home in which he gave details of his hunting trips.

Mr Newton denied four charges of unlawfully killing, injuring, or taking badgers, four charges of cruelly ill-treating badgers, and another four charges of using artificial light to kill or take badgers at

locations in Devon and Somerset. Mr John Revell, for the prosecution, told the court that the diaries were the only positive evidence against Mr Newton. Nobody had seen him committing the alleged offences.

After a short adjournment the magistrates decided, despite protests by the defence, that the diaries were admissible as evidence, together with photographs of badgers allegedly taken by Mr Newton.

Mr Revell said that when Mr Newton was interviewed by the police he had insisted that some of the entries in his record were "moody" - that they had been made up.

Mr Revell said he thought that they were accurate record of Mr Newton's hunting trips in search of badgers, foxes, deer, and hares and showed

that he was a cruel man who sent dogs into badger sets to attack and worry badgers.

According to the prosecution, in one of the diaries, marked "large game", the 1981 total given showed that 48 foxes, 11 badgers, 13 hares, and two deer had been taken by a method known as "lamping" - using a lamp to light up animals which were then chased by lurcher dogs.

Another diary referred to Mr Newton's using three terriers to go after badgers.

Mr Revell said that Mr Newton "had an astonishing knowledge of the countryside and animals". He was able to "call" foxes, attracting them vocally so that dogs could be set on them.

Mr Revell alleged of the diaries: "These are not fanciful artificial fairy tales. They are a precise record by a calculating and clever man."

Film institute picks TV for 1984 theme

By Our Arts Correspondent

The British Film Institute is turning to television for the main theme of its work this year. Its "Year of Television" will give the public the chance to see several programmes once thought lost and two versions of 1984 which were banned by George Orwell's widow.

The public will also take part in discussions on the implications of new communications technology.

One of the first screenings, *Boys from the Blackstuff* at the National Film Theatre later this month, has already sold out. The institute also expects to sell every ticket for the screening of the BBC's 30-year-old adaptation of 1984 and a subsequent film version. Leading article, page 11

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Nigeria goes back to the barracks as last governors are sworn in

From Kenneth Mackenzie, Lagos

The place from which Nigeria is governed was called Dodan Barracks from 1966 to 1979. Then, under President Shagari, it became known as State House, Ribadu Road. Now it is called Dodan Barracks again.

Yesterday I was able to watch the new Government at work at the swearing-in of two state governors. Outside the main building, a huge oil painting of Mr Shagari was leaning against a palm tree, waiting to be thrown away.

Security was tight, with several armoured cars outside and soldiers around. Three times we had to show our credentials. Once inside, however, the atmosphere was light and informal, with the officers of the Supreme Military Council mixing freely.

General Mohammed Buhari looks younger and slighter than you would expect of the head of a military Government. He smiles easily and conducts affairs briskly, with no pomposity.

The Chief of Protocol, Ambassador Yusuf Sada, a venerable grey-haired man, presented the governors to be sworn in. Someone in the press section calculated that Mr Sada had served all seven governments - two civilian and five military - which Nigeria has seen since independence.

He is a remarkable symbol

of the way a Civil Service maintains a degree of continuity and stability amid flux. The two governors sworn in were of Rivers State and Anambra. The governors of the other 17 were sworn in two days ago. The Anambra governor was absent then because of transport difficulties. The Rivers State story is more interesting.

There was a small scandal over the military man first chosen. It seems that his wife had been the secretary to the previous civilian governor, who is in detention. One of the local newspapers made a fuss.

In a short slightly embarrassed speech General Buhari explained that the Government had no proof of any wrongdoings by the wife, but was determined to avoid being associated in any way with a scandal. And so, another man has been appointed.

The civilian politicians were less sensitive about such a matter. As a result, a large number - the exact figure is not known, but there are probably hundreds - are detained, many elsewhere in Dodan Barracks. Mr Shagari is said to be in Bonny Camp, Victoria Island, Lagos. The military leaders - and the public - are upset that three of the biggest fish have escaped.

They are Chief Adisa Akin-

loye, the former chairman of the ruling party, Dr Joseph Wayas, former president of the Senate, and Mr Umaru Dikko, a former minister and the man who planned - or rigged - the election victory for Mr Shagari in August.

Houses have been searched and friends and relatives questioned, but it seems certain all three are safely overseas.

The Supreme Military Council is:

Head of Government and Commander-in-Chief of Armed Forces: Major-General Mohammed Buhari.

Chief of Staff: Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon.

Defence Minister: Major-General B. Y. Baki.

Army Chief of Staff: Major-General Ibrahim Babangida.

Navy Chief of Staff: Commodore Augustine Alkomo.

Air Force Chief of Staff: Air Vice-Marshal Ibrahim Alfa.

Other members of the council are: Major-General Mamman Vatsa, Brigadier Mohammed Magoro, Brigadier Sanni Abacha, Brigadier Olu Ori, Brigadier M. J. Nasco, Brigadier Y. Y. Kure, Brigadier Paul Omu, Captain Ebo Okiwe, Air Commodore Lawrence Koyinlan, Inspector-General of Police: Colonel Saliu Ibrahim James Etim Nyang, Director-General of Nigeria Security Organisation: Mohammed Rafindadi, Attorney-General and Minister of Justice: Mr Chibie Offodile.



Olympian controversy: Most Italians in a phone-in survey by state-run radio were opposed to suggestions that these bronze Greek statues, attributed to sent from Italy to the Los Angeles Olympics this summer.

Kissinger report will recommend keeping US aid for Contras

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Dr Henry Kissinger's commission on Central America, which reports to President Reagan tomorrow, will recommend continued American aid to Honduras-based guerrillas fighting the left-wing FSLN Government of Nicaragua.

The devastation caused to the Nicaraguan economy by the guerrillas, supported by the Soviet Union, training and direct involvement in raiding missions by the CIA, is one of the most controversial aspects of American policy in the region. Dr Kissinger appears to have persuaded the 12-member commission to adopt a tone consistently consistent with the Reagan Administration's hard-line policies towards Central America.

But on one point, at least, he does not seem to have got all that he wants. He favours substantial military and economic aid to the Government of El Salvador, which has a four-year

guerrilla war on its hands, but does not want it tied to improvements in human rights. The commission, however, is believed to be determined to make the provision of more aid conditional on continued improvements in human rights and progress towards full democracy. Last November President Reagan vetoed a Bill requiring "certification" of such progress in exchange for continued aid.

The Administration's view that West Europe should join the United States in providing assistance to Central America has reportedly been taken up by the commission. This point was emphasized by Mr Richard Stone, Mr Reagan's special envoy to the region.

President Reagan would like to resume aid to Guatemala, which has been repeatedly accused of human rights abuses of being one of the most brutal regimes in Central America. Kissinger's cleverness, page 10

Contadora peace plan endorsed

San Jose (Reuters) The foreign Ministers of El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua have endorsed here on measures aimed at bringing peace to Central America.

They approved a document drawn up by Mexico, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela which emphasizes demilitarization of the region and calls for three commissions to work on the treaties.

The document, based on a joint plan approved in December, includes proposals for an arms inventory and a timetable for eventual elimination of foreign military aid.

The commissions on security, political, economic and social issues would be set up by the end of the month, with two representatives from each Central American country.

The document calls for the identification and eradication of irregular forces which operate across the territory of Central American states. It also calls for the elimination of destabilizing activities against another government in the region.

Surinam Cabinet dismissed

From Robert Schull, Amsterdam

Lieutenant-Colonel Desi Bouterse, the military leader of Surinam, the former Dutch colony in South America, has dismissed the civilian Cabinet led by Mr Errol Alibux, and has rescinded all tax increases that went into effect in the New Year.

For nearly four weeks workers in the bauxite industry have been on strike against the increases, a measure taken by the Government to qualify for a loan from the International Monetary Fund.

Bauxite is the mainstay of the economy, which is on the verge of bankruptcy, in part because of the suspension by The Netherlands of its £2,200m aid programme to Surinam after the execution in December, 1982, of 15 leading opponents of the military regime.

In his television speech announcing the measures, Colonel Bouterse accused the Alibux Cabinet of not having listened sufficiently to the people.

Support for Mr Alibux came mainly from the Progressive Union of Workers and Farmers.

Anti-Guinea mercenaries arrested in Senegal

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar

Seventeen mercenaries and three recruiting sergeants have been arrested at Kolda, in the southern Casamance region of Senegal.

The arrested men are alleged to have been recruited to mount operations intended to destabilize the regime of President Sekou Toure in neighbouring Guinea.

According to the official Senegalese newspaper *Le Soleil*, the mercenaries were on their way when arrested to a training camp in another unspecified West African country. Although the arrests were announced yesterday, they are believed to have taken place over the new year. The arrested men have

been brought to Dakar.

According to the newspaper report, 15 of the mercenaries are from Guinea-Bissau, a former Portuguese colony which joins Guinea to the west; two are from Senegal and the recruiting sergeants from Guinea.

President Sekou Toure has been Guinea head of state since the country's independence from France in 1960. He has in the past never been close to his neighbouring francophone states, preferring to follow a pro-Soviet line.

Over the years there have been accusations of destabilization, real or imagined, against Guinea's neighbours.

Zhao meets Reagan today

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, and President Reagan today hold their long-awaited first meeting determined to ease tensions and expand trade and technological ties between their countries.

Mr Zhao spent yesterday relaxing at the restored colonial town of Williamsburg, in southern Virginia. He arrived there on Sunday after a 24-hour visit to Hawaii, mostly sightseeing. He watched island dances and during a visit to the war memorial at Pearl Harbour, he told his guide he hoped for everlasting peace between China and the United States and the rest of the world.

Mr Zhao's meetings with Mr Reagan at the White House this week are intended to symbolize a more stable and deepening relationship between their two governments, who have been at loggerheads over the continued US arms sales to Taiwan, which China claims as its province.

Mr Zhao's talks here on bilateral matters and world issues will help to pave the way for President Reagan's first state visit to Peking in April, American officials said.

The White House discussions are expected to range over East-West relations, arms control issues, Afghanistan, Vietnam and other Asian developments. The Middle East and Africa, international economic and trading questions are also likely to be on the agenda.

Mr Zhao, arrives in Washington today on a three-day visit. Both Washington and Peking seem anxious to improve relations and play down past disputes.

The Chinese leader's visit is expected to mark a significant change from Peking's attitude about 18 months ago, when it was vehemently criticizing the Reagan Administration's arms supplies to Taiwan.

American officials expect Mr Zhao to raise the controversial Taiwan issue.

In August, 1982, the US promised that it would gradually reduce its arms sales to Taiwan after Peking had publicly pledged to continue its "fundamental policy" of seeking a peaceful resolution of the Taiwan question.

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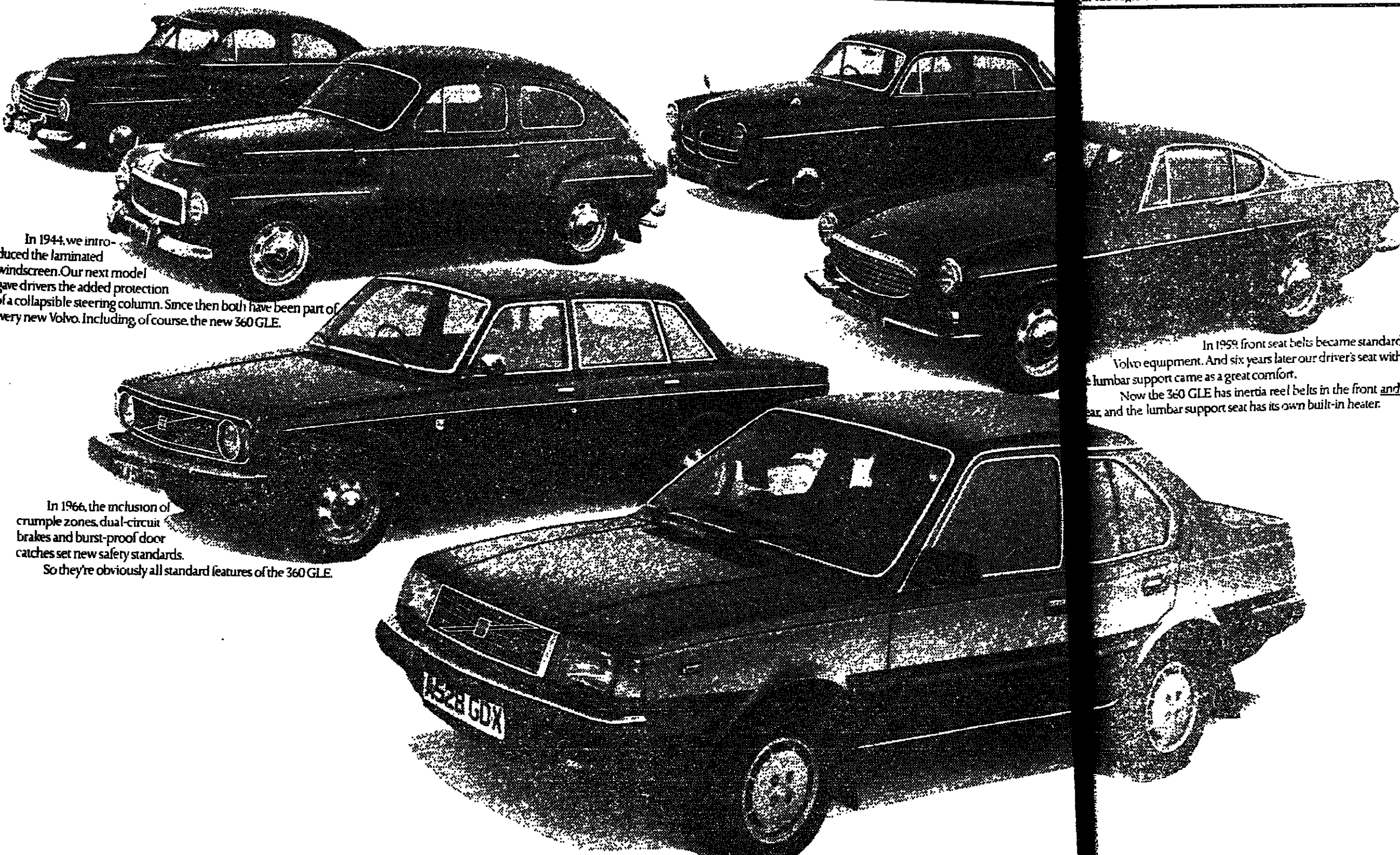
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In 1944, we introduced the laminated windscreen. Our next model gave drivers the added protection of a collapsible steering column. Since then both have been part of every new Volvo. Including of course, the new 360 GLE.

In 1966, the inclusion of crumple zones, dual-circuit brakes and burst-proof door catches set new safety standards.

So they're obviously all standard features of the 360 GLE.

In 1959 front seat belts became standard Volvo equipment. And six years later our driver's seat with its lumbar support came as a great comfort. Now the 360 GLE has inertia reel belts in the front and rear, and the lumbar support seat has its own built-in heater.

HOW OLD IS THE NEW 2 LITRE VOLVO SALOON?

There can be little doubt about the pedigree of Volvo's new 2 litre 360 GLE saloon.

Indeed, with so many traditional Volvo features you may well be wondering what exactly is new.

If so, you are in for some pleasant surprises.

For nowhere amongst the car's forebears shown above will you find mention of an eager 92 bhp engine that gives a top speed of 106 mph. (Or, indeed, the option of the 115 bhp fuel-injected model.)

Neither will you discover a 5th gear that allows you to cruise

at 70 mph while the rev counter reads just 3024 rpm.

Nor a Porsche-type transmission layout that places the gearbox over the rear axle to give limpet-like road-holding.

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They can however all be found on the new 360 GLE saloon.

Along of course, with all our more proven innovations.

Because without them it simply wouldn't be a Volvo.

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1984 VOLVO 360 GLE FROM £6699

INJECTION VERSION FEATURED FROM £7150. CARBURETTOR MODEL FROM £6699. CAR TAX AND VAT INCLUDED. (DELIVERY, NUMBER PLATES EXTRA) CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. CUSTOMER INFORMATION TEL: 0494 33444. EXPORT SALES TEL: 01-493 0321

Europe faces surgeon's knife

Dalsager warning of 'in bankruptcy'

The EEC faces "the certainty of bankruptcy" before the summer if the member states cannot agree on a common agricultural policy. That was the dire warning from the European Commission in Brussels yesterday when agriculture ministers met for the first time under the French presidency to plan for the future.

According to Mr Gaston Thorez, the Commission president, the £10,000m agriculture budget for 1984 will be unable to meet 10 per cent of the bills, even if ministers agree to freeze prices at current levels.

In the words of Mr Paul Dalsager, the Agriculture Commissioner: "It is not a matter of economizing by eating smaller oysters with a cheaper brand of champagne. It is a matter of accustoming our-

selves to the sensation of leaving the table with a stomach less than full, but still with enough nutrition to preserve health and vigour."

Giving "a few plain, blunt, inescapable facts", he warned the ministers that, unless they took the necessary and painful decisions in the near future, then certainly before the year was out the CAP would falter and collapse. If it did, "then the whole edifice of the European Community will be at the brink of failure."

The Community was already about two years late in taking the necessary decisions. "We have passed the point at which minor surgery was recommended and rejected as too painful. Now we have to recommend major surgery. This will hurt a great deal, but it is dangerous to put off the operation again."

ng to Mr John Mac-

the Junior British

There was a lot of

of the urgency and

of taking de-

He said that it was

left that there was a

economics and overall

been "a very sober,

discussion".

ture ministers had

that it was time to

their responsibilities

al policies. They

aiming to agree on

of reforms based on

commission proposals

d of March.

laser said that, even if

ters agreed on bringing

ately the reforms

by the Commission,

n if no unfavourable

influences affected

prices, there would still

money for price increases

or for getting rid of the

"intolerable levels" of surplus-

es.

"However you may try to

juggle with the figures, there is

no escape from it," he said.

They were desperately short of

time. If there was to be any

hope of avoiding disaster, then

the reform package would have

to be in place by the end of

March.

M Michel Rocard, the French

minister chairing the meeting,

gave a warning that "the

Community was in danger of

abandoning the principles

underlying the CAP. The

Community, he said, should not

be afraid of taking up its

position as the second largest

exporter of agricultural produce

in the world, but it had to

produce the food which was

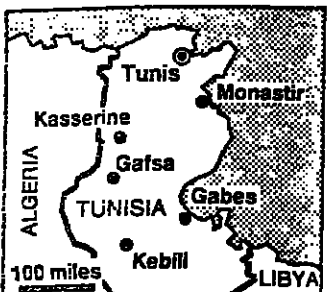
needed at the prices clients

could afford to pay.

Tunisian protest to Libya

Oil pipeline sabotaged

From Godfrey Morrison



Tunisia yesterday sent a diplomatic note to Libya in connection with the sabotage at the weekend of an oil pipeline in southern Tunisia, only a mile from the Libyan frontier. It was officially announced here.

A blaze started by the sabotage attack, which occurred in the early hours of Sunday, was only put out on Sunday afternoon, a Tunisian Defence Ministry spokesman said.

It had been established that four armed men had crossed from Libya into Tunisia territory in a Land Rover-type vehicle to carry out the attack. The pipeline links an Algerian oilfield with the Tunisian port of Es Sghira in the Gulf of Gabes.

The sabotage attack came just after political tension in Tunisia, high for over a week due to food riots, had been removed by President Bourguiba's decision to cancel the increases.

Because of the volatile nature of Tunisian-Libyan relations, which have varied from proposed union of the two countries to uncontrolled hostility, there was much speculation about whether Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, was in instigator or would become involved in the unrest caused by the food riots here.

However, during the riots there was no evidence of Libyan involvement and at their height Mr Muhammad Mzali, the

affairs before the Army

with a declaration of

emergency. The capital's

ure of police has been

and the force placed

the command of the

of police.

PSA: Panic-stricken

were blamed for the high

ity toll from the recent

shots which hit this area of

from Tunisia worse than

AFP reports).

Gafsa and nearby Kasse-

sources said that nine

had been killed and

dozen injured, and

age was severe. In Gafsa

two hotels in the town

were looted and burnt,

in the town's public

in a statue of President

quibla lying smashed on

is evidence of national

Gaddafi's real intentions

towards the country.

In 1980 dissidents attacked a

police station at Gafsa, also in

the south, and the Tunisians

made no secret of their belief

that they had been inspired by

the Libyans.

Meanwhile, the situation here

continues to return to normal.

Though a curfew is still in force,

its length has been reduced, and

yesterday the greatest sign of

the Government's returning

confidence came with the

announcement that schools and

universities are to reopen on

Thursday.

The Government yesterday

issued an implied criticism of

the way the police in Tunis had

sterling's fall 'cost

EEC £50m'

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels

The European Parliament

and Commission have cost

the hard-up EEC at least £50m in

paying over budget rebates to

Britain. This emerges from the

report of the Community's

Court of Auditors for 1982, just

published.

The loss was due to the way

the value of sterling plummeted

at the start of last year, at a time

when the Parliament had

unexpectedly voted to block

payment of a rebate worth

£490m to Britain.

The mix-up began when the

Commission began to assemble

the money it expected it would

have to pay Britain by Decem-

ber 31, 1982. It did this by what

the Court of Auditors terms a

"surprising" way of purchasing

sterling with other European

currencies held in its bank

accounts in other member

states.

This money was then trans-

ferred to the Commission's

account with the Bank of

England - known as Treasury

Chambers EEC1 - ready for

transferring to a brand-new

account opened in the name of

Treasury Chambers EEC3.

Then, on December 16, 1981,

the Parliament threw out the

package for paying Britain and

West Germany the agreed

rebates. This meant it was

impossible to meet the end-of-

year deadline for payment,

though it was still possible to

reach agreement on another

payment method before the end

of the British fiscal year on

March 31. But the Commission

still transferred the money from

"EEC 1" to "EEC 3" by

December 31. The court con-

siders that the proper course

would have been to share out

the money among member

states.

This was done without

Parliament's authorization and

meant that Britain and West

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Sterling's fall 'cost EEC £50m'

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money at the Community's

expense.



All smiles: A Lebanese woman and an Israeli soldier at the Awali checkpoint as she crosses from the north into Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon.

Aged Jordan MPs limp back after years in wilderness

From Christopher Walker, Amman

There have been few more

bizarre moves in the search for

Middle East peace than yester-

day's reconvening of the

defunct Jordanian National

Assembly, a long-forgotten

body, most of whose members

are of such venerable age (the

Speaker is in his eighties) that

it is referred to locally as "the

rotting parliament".

The urgent need for King

Husain to order the contro-

versial recall before the legal

quorum of 40 disappeared for

over, was painfully apparent in

the members' lobby, where

many of the 46 living deputies

walked on sticks. One limped

from the chamber on the arms

of two colleagues, face waxen

pale and breathing unasily.

Although wags in the opulent

press gallery suggested that the

assembly should have met in

the intensive-care unit of the

King Hussein Hospital, its

recall was warmly welcomed by

Jordanians anxious to recon-

struct political life after nearly

17 years without an election.

The historic session took

place under threat from Syria

and the mounted heavy ma-

chine guns on jeeps, at either

side of the new parliament

building, were reminder of the

danger that the Hashemite

monarch may face violent

opposition to his plan.

Streets on either side were

blocked off to reduce the threat

of car bombs, and those

entering subjected to two

successive body checks. A

reminder of how long Jorda-

nians have lived without their

parliament came from the

normally razor sharp doorman

at Amman's leading hotel, who

was at a loss for directions on

how to find it.

Altogether, 13 of those

present had crossed from the

occupied West Bank and some

appeared to be enjoying flexing

their political muscles again.

Essentially provincial poli-

ticians, whose popular support

has long been eroded by events,

many looked bewildered at the

blanket media coverage which

the 40-minute session at-

tracted.

Mr Edward Khamis, a

bespectacled Palestinian land-

owner from the biblical town of

Bethlehem, was, at the age of

51, one of the youngest and

spiritedly deputies in the

wood-panelled assembly build-

ing, complete with ornate

chandeliers and occasional

furniture in the style rudely

referred to as "Louis Farouk".

"I have as much right to

speak for the West Bank as

does the Palestine Liberation

Organization, because I have

lived there for nearly 17 years

of Israeli occupation", he

explained. "I feel that there

must be negotiations with

Israel very soon. That is what

most of us on the West Bank

feel now, although we know

Israel is not prepared to give

anything away."

Although Western statesmen

anxious for any straw in the

wind of a possible break-

through in the deadlocked

peace process have emphasized

the world significance of

yesterday's session, whose

interventions were interrupted

by the banging of a magnificent

silver bell, the purely domestic

aspects were also of impor-

tance.

Badly hit economically by

the failure of fellow Arab states

to meet the \$857m aid figure

guaranteed annually by the

1978 Baghdad summit, Jordan

has seen political frustrations

grow in recent months. "The

King hopes that east bank

elections will provide the

perfect opportunity for steam to

be let off safely and democrati-

cally", explained one diplomat.

A question mark remains

over how much of the self-cen-

sorship which characterizes the

Jordanian press will be relaxed

in advance of polling day. But

Western observers agree that

the Hashemite monarchy is

stable enough now to loosen

some of the strictures.

In the last resort, it was the

potentially sweeping interna-

tional implications rather

than local politics (or rather,

the lack of them) that domi-

nated comment on the return of

what was once one of the most

respected parliaments in the

Arab world.

Leading article, page 11

Printer has fingers and thumb sewn back

Peking (AP) - Chinese

doctors have reattached eight

fingers and a thumb to hands of

a Chinese printing plant worker

in a 30-hour operation, the

official Xinhua news agency

reported yesterday.

Many Chinese surgeons spe-

cialize in microsurgery, but the

restoration of Wang Hongde's

fingers at a Naval hospital in

Qingdao on November 13 was

described as a "rare success".

The report said Wang's

fingers were severed when the

machine he was operating at the

Xinhua printing house in

Dezhou City, 640 miles from

Qingdao, malfunctioned.

He was taken to the Naval

hospital by air and four teams

of surgeons conducted simulta-

neous operations under four

microscopes. The other thumb

required suturing. Wang's

wounds have healed and he is

undergoing physical therapy.

Santiago rocked by explosions

Santiago (AP) - A series of

explosions shook the Chilean

capital at dawn yesterday, the

most serious destroying 35

yards of railway line near the

city centre.

The targets included banks

and shopping centres and was

the biggest and most coordi-

nated wave of bombings yet

seen here.

Unesco 'can do without US'

Barcelona (Reuters) - The

head of Unesco has expressed

regret at a US decision to

withdraw from the organiza-

tion, but said the move would

not jeopardize its financing.

Mr Amadou Mahtar Mbow,

Director-General of the United

Nations body, told a press

conference that Washington's

decision was not so much a

problem of financing, which

could be solved, but rather a

move which undermined the

principle of universality.

Boxer dies

Akita, Japan (Reuters) - Isao

Kimura, a 28-year-old Japanese

professional boxer died of brain

damage yesterday after being

knocked out in a bout here on

Saturday.

Hotel closed

Dar es Salaam (AFP) - The

four-star Bwawani Hotel, the

only tourist hotel of interna-

tional reputation in Zanzibar,

has been closed after the

Government refused to renew

the contract to its Indian

operators. The 104-room hotel,

built in 1974, was put under

police guard.

Hughes eulogy

Hongkong - Mr Richard

Hughes, former correspondent

of The Times who died last

week was cremated here after a

requiem Mass at St Joseph's

Roman Catholic Church. Mr

Denis Bray, Secretary for Home

Affairs, delivered a eulogy.

Seamen killed

Cape Town (AP) - Three

merchant seamen died and

three others suffered burns in

an explosion on board the Libe-

rian-registered oil tanker Bra-

zilian Splendour off Cape Town.

Tornado lost

Bonn (Reuters) - The West

German Fleet Air Arm lost its

second Tornado aircraft within

five days when one of the £16m

planes crashed off the Danish

coast. The crew of two ejected

safely.

Blaze arrests

Munich (Reuters) - Two

Italians have been detained on

suspicion of setting fire to a

Munich night club, injuring

eight people. A 22-year-old

waiter and a 20-year-old un-

skilled worker, both from the

island of Ischia, were arrested

after a tip-off.

Talbot hopeful

Paris (Reuters) - The man-

agement of the troubled Talbot

car plant at Poissy, near Paris, was

reorganizing the factory for

reduced production in advance

of redundancy talks between

unions, management and the

Government. It was closed on

Friday after two days of violent

clashes.

Fewer refugees

Bangkok - Fewer Indo-

chinese refugees were left in UN

camps in South-East Asia at the

end of 1981 than at any time

since Vietnam invaded Cambo-

dia more than five years ago.

About 170,000 remain,

mainly in Thailand.

Water hazard

Bulawayo (AFP) - A lizard

cut off water to hundreds of

residents in Bulawayo, Zim-

babwe's second city. It became

stuck in the recording mechan-

ism of the reservoir, producing

a false reading that it was nearly

full and causing intake valves to

close.

Bonn blast

Bonn (AP) - A home-made

bomb exploded near the en-

trance to the South African

Embassy here. Nobody was

hurt.

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The two worlds of Invincible

From David Watts

Singapore

A puzzled frown passed over

the face of Captain Nicholas

Hill-Norton, the commander of

HMS Invincible. "At first I

thought they must be saying

these things about some other

ship".

He was responding to re-

ports that 70 per cent of

Invincible's crew were fed up

with the ship's long Far East

deployment and wanted to leave

the Navy. "With 1,000 crew on

board, all away from home for

Christmas and New Year, there

are bound to be pressures, but

altogether everybody is having

a jolly good time", he said.

"I have never seen such

warm things written about a

ship", the captain said, as the

vessel settled down for repairs

to one of its port propeller shaft

bearings in the civilian dock-

yard at Sembawang.

"In fact, since we left, 21

men have applied to leave the

Navy. During the previous

month in Portsmouth, we had

17 or 18 applications to leave."

"Since we left, 15 people

have decided to extend their

terms or to stay on permanently

so you could say that we have

had a net loss of six out of a

thousand", Captain Hill-

Norton said.

Two sailors were not as

sanguine. "Look, a Goedicke

said, "there are two halves to

this ship, the ward room and

the real world. The ward room

may be happy, but the real

world isn't. I volunteered for

eight months on her to see

Japan and now we're not

going."

His friend said, "She's a fine

ship, but we've had a lot of

mundane duties. There's been a

lack of information. We never

know what's going on and a lot

of people want to go home."

The unforeseen changes in

the ship's schedule have con-

tributed to some of the

frustrations, but there was no

doubt about the men's pride in

showing Australian friends

over the vessel during the

troubled time in Sydney.

The ship appears to have

acquired herself well in ex-

cises with the US Navy, as well

as the Australians and New

Zealanders.

"The Australians were jolly

impressed," Captain Hill-

Norton said. "It's all gone well.

It's teamwork essentially, and

we have got it all together with

what is a new crew since the

Falklands. We've had no

failings of men or equipment

and any shortcomings have

been tactical."

Invincible will stay in Singa-

pore until January 23 and then

spend two months in the Far

East. Details of its movements

have not been announced.

Sacked Nao general 'open to blackmail'

Bonn (Reuters) - A West

German general was dismissed

from a top Nato post for

national security reasons, a

Defence Ministry spokesman

said yesterday.

Colonel Jurgen Reichardt, said

he was removed from his

post because he frequented homo-

sexual haunts.

He told a regular Govern-

ment press conference that no

other countries or foreign

secrets were involved in the

case of four-star General Gun-

ter Kiessling, Nato's Deputy

Supreme Commander in

Europe, who was ordered to

resign.

Colonel Reichardt said Gen-

eral Kiessling had not been

guilty of dereliction of duty, but

indicated that he could have

been blackmailed.

Colonel Reichardt declined to

give the precise reason for the

general's abrupt dismissal a

month ago.

Glemp fights on for dissidents

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Roman Catholic Church

in Poland is continuing to pre-

ssure the Government to release

imprisoned Solidarity leaders.

But in the interests of interna-

tional peace, it is making

attempts to bridge differences

over foreign policy, church

sources said yesterday.

An analysis of last week's talk

between Cardinal Jozef Glemp

and General Wojciech Jaruzels-

ki.

The five hours of talk

between the Primate and the

polish leader brought no great

advance on the issue of the

jailed seven Solidarity leaders

and the four members of KOR

who are awaiting trials on

charges of trying to overthrow

the state.

The Primate's view, accord-

ing to church advisers, is that

the Government should be

consistent: either it should

release the leaders without

conditions or it should bring

them to trial.

The Government wants to

avoid the political embarrass-

ment of a show trial at a time

when it is trying national

reconciliation. The only logical

course, therefore, is that the

prisoners, who include Mr

Jack Kuron and Mr Lech

Walesa's former deputy, Mr

Andrzej Gwiazda, should be

freed, the church says.

Meanwhile, General Jaruzels-

ki had evidently hoped that the

meeting with Cardinal Glemp

would produce a commitment

to calm the nation.

A hint of flexibility from East

Gairry to go back soon to Grenada

Washington (AFP) - Sir Eric

Gairry, Grenada's former Prime

Minister, will return "shortly",

but will not be a candidate in

the elections, he said yesterday.

Sir Eric, who was overthrown

in 1979, predicted the Grenada

United Labour Party he once

headed would get "an over-

whelming victory in the elec-

tions".

He said that, if the party won,

it would request a continued

American military presence and

a British naval presence. The

United States invaded Grenada

last September after Maurice

Bishop, who overthrew Sir Eric,

was killed by left-wing dissi-

dents.

A green town far away

Come Ming come Mao
nothing lasts, but
somewhere, encased in
the endless concrete of
Peking, lie the roots
of China's presence

By Jan Morris

The airline magazine on CAAC Flight 1502, from Shanghai to Peking, was six months old and reported the self-criticism of a Chinese women's volleyball team defeated by the Americans in 1982: "They were desperate, with fiery eyes, whereas we were passive and vulnerable to attack." It was like flying in a dentist's waiting room, I thought. Also, the seats in the 707 seemed to be a job lot from older, dismembered aircraft, some of them reclining, some of them rigid. People smoked unrestrictedly in the non-smoking section, and our in-flight refreshment was a mug of lukewarm coffee brought by a less than winning stewardess. I was not surprised by all this. I was lucky, I knew, that there were no wicker chairs in the middle of the aisle to take care of overbooking, and at least we were not called upon to advance en masse upon reactionary hijackers, bombarding them with lemonade bottles.

The enigmas were mounting. Why, I wondered, were the Chinese modernizing themselves with such remarkable ineptitude? Did they not invent the wheelbarrow a thousand years before the West? Had they not, for that matter, split the atom and sent rockets into space? Were they not brilliantly quick on the uptake, acute of observation, subtle of inference? The broad-minded Deng Xiaoping is the leader of China these days, and he is dedicated to technical progress of any derivation. As he once said in a famous phrase, "What does it matter whether a cat is black or white, so long as it catches mice?" China stammers all over with innovation and technology from the West; yet the coffee's still cold on Flight 1502.

The bricklaying in contemporary China would shame a brickyard amateur in Arkansas. The architecture is ghastly. In the newest and grandest buildings, cement is cracked, taps don't work, escalators are out of order. RESPECT HYGIENE, proclaim the street posters, but the public lavatories are vile, and they had to put spittoons in the tombs of the Ming emperors. Western architects, I am told, often despair to find air conditioning connected to heating ducts or fire escapes mounted upside down.

Why? What happened to the skills and sensibilities that built the Great Wall, moulded the exquisite dragon caves, dug out the lovely lakes of *Chinoiserie*? Feudalism stifled them, the official spokesmen say. Isolation atrophied them, the historians maintain. Maoism suppressed them, say the pragmatists. Communism killed them, that's what, the tourists say knowingly. But perhaps it goes deeper than that: perhaps the Chinese, deprived of their ancient magics, observing that nothing lasts, come Ming, come Mao, have no faith in mere materialism and put no trust in efficiency. *Feng shui* ("wind and water"), the ancient Chinese geomancy that envisaged a mystic meaning to the form of everything, is banned from the People's Republic, and dear God it shows.

Never mind: with an incomprehensible splutter over the public-address system and a bit of a struggle getting tables to click back into their sockets, we landed safely enough in Peking.

The first thing that struck me about this prodigious capital, which commands the destinies of a quarter of the earth's inhabitants, was the nature of its light. It was a continental light, a light of steppes or prairies, and tinged with green. At first, I thought of it as metallic, but later it seemed to me more like concrete: arched in a vast bowl over the capital, a sky of greenish concrete!

And concrete, too, was the dominant substance of the city down below: stacks of concrete, yards of concrete, parks paved with concrete, their trees ignominiously sunk in sockets of soil, vast highways like concrete glaciers across of the city, and everywhere around the flat skyline the looming shapes of high-rise blocks, their grim squareness broken only by the outlines of cranes lifting final concrete slabs to their summits. No need for rice glue, I concluded, in Peking.

I was staying on the outskirts of the city, almost in the country. There, the concrete was interrupted often by fields of vegetables, and the traffic that passed in the morning was half-rural - mule carts all among the buses, juddering tractors sometimes. Most of the drivers looked half-dead with fatigue and the traffic itself seemed to



Tian An Men Square in Peking: utterly concrete, all columns and swollen symmetry

rumble by in monotonous exhaustion. I went one morning to the Lugou Bridge, which used to be the city limit beyond which foreigners were forbidden to travel, and standing there among its 282 sulphur lions, all different, above a green-fushed river, watched those red reinforcements labouring into the city.

Somewhere over there, I knew, was the source and fount of the Chinese presence - the Inner City of Peking, which is now Beijing, which was Kubli Khan's Dadu - the home of Deng Xiaoping, the home of Chairman Mao, the home of the Manchus emperors and the Mings and the Hans before them. I approached it warily. Like the supplicants of old China kept waiting for a year or two before being granted audience with the Son of Heaven, I hung around the gates, waiting for a summons.

If Shanghai a first felt unexpectedly familiar, Peking seemed almost unimaginably abroad. Everything was different here. The faces were different, the eyes were different, the manners were colder and more aloof. Though, as it happened, people were more attractively dressed than they had been in Shanghai - far more girls in skirts and blouses, even a few young men in suits and ties - still they were infinitely more alien to me. The children, their heads often shaved or close-clipped, their cheeks high, did not respond so blithely. A son of a grave and massive contemplation greeted me wherever I went, as though each pair of thoughtful eyes, nearly a billion Chinese people, Jilin to Yunnan, were inspecting me as I passed.

Beneath the great green sky, treading those interminable concrete pavements, I felt awfully far from home, and when I followed the immemorial tourist route and took a car to the Great Wall, up there on the sun-blazed masonry, looking out across those vast northern plains and purple mountains, I felt I was breaking some strange and lifelong dream. The wall has been reconstructed around Badaling Gate and is overrun there by tourists of all nationalities, milling among the cars and buses below, having their pictures taken, riding the resident camel, eating little peaches and drinking Kekou Kele, "Tasty and Happy" - Coke, that is. It is easy to escape them, though. You make the fearfully steep ascent away from the gate toward the watchtower to the west.

Once at the tower, you find that beyond it, the wall is reconstructed so

further but degenerates instantly into crumbled stone and brickwork, rambling away over the undulating ridges with nobody there at all. I walked a long way along it, out into the empty countryside, all silent but for the wind, all lifeless but for the hairy caterpillars that crossed and recrossed the uneven stonework beneath my feet. But lo, when in the middle of nowhere I sat down upon the parapet to think about my rather lonely situation, out of that wilderness four or five wispy figures emerged, and opening paper bags and wrappings of sackcloth, asked if I wished to buy some antique bells or back scratchers. Yet again, China had topsy-turved me. I had fallen among old acquaintances, and when, one by one, they took turns looking through my binoculars, well, said I to myself, what's so strange about the Great Wall of China anyway?

Looked at from the East, Peking is not remote at all - only 100 miles from the sea, only three hours or so by air from Tokyo. It is only when you come to it out of the West, on, more pertinently, out of the Western sensibility, that it remains so romantically distant. On a Monday afternoon, I went down to the gigantic railway station, twin towered and green-roofed (escalator out of order), to see the arrival of the Trans-Siberian Express from Moscow. This was a dramatic occasion. Hundreds of us had come to meet the train: for hours beforehand, we waited in the cavernous International Travellers' Waiting Room, and when the bell rang, the great doors opened and we burst on to the platform, an air of headiest expectancy prevailed. And there, slowly rounding the curve into the station, very, very grandly, appeared the Trans-Siberian.

With a triumphant blast of its whistle, it came majestically to Peking, the three engineers sitting in their cab like a trio of admirals on a flagship bridge. The waiting people clapped and cheered and waved newspapers as the doors opened and, from Mongolia or Siberia, Omsk or Moscow itself, their travel-worn loved ones fell home into China. One coach was full of a Western travel group and these voyagers, as they emerged, glazed and haggard, on the platform, looking wonderingly around them, reminded me of the long-lost pilots returning to earth out of the spaceship in the closing sequences of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*.

There is not much left of old Peking, except for Protected Treasures. The city walls have been torn down, most of the fortress gates have vanished, the

clutter of medievalism that so entranced the old travellers has been swept away as though it never were. Across the face of the central city has been laid the cruel thoroughfare called Changan, down which the trolley buses trundle and the bikes chaotically swarm. Here and there, though, I felt a powerful tug of organic continuity in this city of 2000 years.

I felt it, for instance, at the summer palace of the last of the Manchus emperors, which is now a public park but is still everyone's idea of a Chinese imperial retreat, with its pagodas and towering temples, its ornamental bridges among the water lilies, its myriad boats upon the limpid lake, its covered way, decorated with a thousand scenes of Chinese legend, from which it is said no pair of lovers can emerge unbetrothed, and its ridiculous marble paddle-steamer, forever moored beside the quay (the empress built the place with money intended for the reconstruction of the Chinese navy) and commissioned this nautical folly, they say, as a slap in the face of the outraged fleet.

I sensed the constancy of things when, lifting my head unawares as I walked up Qianmen Street, I saw the vast glowing shape of the Qianmen Gate blocking the thoroughfare in front, for all the world as though it were still the portentous gateway, as it used to be, into the Inner City beyond. I sensed it delectably beside the lonely, neglected pagoda of Balizhuang, where martins twittered about out on the western outskirts, at whose feet the women of the local commune worked, crouching in their straw hats among the beanpoles, chitter-chattering half-hidden, like so many swallows themselves. I felt it pungently in the traditional pharmacy called the Shared Benevolence Hall, founded in 1669, which is a treasure house of arcane specifics, stacked upon stacks of mysterious powders, brown bottles of roots and seeds, phials of restorative nectars, sea horses, antlers, extract of deer tail, heart of monkey.

In the early mornings, I used to go wandering through the *hutongs*, the crooked quarters of small courtyard houses that survive here and there off the huge new highways. A curious hush pervades these parts. No motor traffic goes along the alleyways, and high walls conceal the jumbled yards. Only by peering through half-open gates can you glimpse the tangled, crowded life within, meshed in laundry and potted plants, here a man in no shirt eating porridge from a tin bowl, there an old

woman smoking her first cigarette of the day or a girl in spotless white blouse extracting her bicycle from the rubble. A faint haze of smoke hangs in the air, and from the public lavatory, smelling violently of mingled excrement and disinfectant, heavy breathing and a vigorous swishing of brooms show that some unprivileged comrade is fulfilling early-morning labour norms. Nobody ever took much notice of me wandering these quiet lanes as the sun came up; only a fairly hooded eye focused on me now and then, when a woman emerged to empty her slop down a drain or a bicycle bell chimed me out of the way.

And once, very early, I strayed over a bridge to a leafy path beside a moat. I was led there by a curious cacophony of shouts, singing and twanged instruments, and I found it to be the most hauntingly timeless place of all. It was a place of self-fulfilment. Resolutely facing a high stone rampart above the moat, like Jews at the Walling Wall, all along the path men and women were privately rehearsing their own particular accomplishments in the dawn. As we sang in the evening tub, so the people of Peking go to that wall. Here was a man, his face a few inches from the masonry, declaiming some heroic soliloquy. Here, a woman was practising an astonishing range of arpeggios, shrill soprano to resonant baritone. A splendid bass was singing a romantic ballad, a poet seemed to be trying out a lyric, an old man with a bicycle was plucking the strings of an antique lute. I thought of joining in, so universal did these impulses seem, sending "To be or not to be" reverberating down that wall, or perhaps reciting some of my own purple passages, but as a Foreign Guest, I restrained myself and just whistled my way home to breakfast.

I must have walked a hundred miles! And gropingly, I circled toward the center of things - to what the old Chinese would have called the center of all things. The measured and muffled restraint of this city was like a fog in the sunshine. Gentle and polite, its people kept me always wondering, and I missed the flash of underlife that gives most great cities their clarity. I missed scamps, drunks, whores, haggard and ticket-touts offering me seats - heaven forbid - for the Chinese opera.

How bored this quarter of the earth must be! Even the procreation of the urban Chinese is limited, if not by law, at least by powerful persuasion. They must not gamble, there is nowhere to dance, it is miles on the bike to a cinema, and if they turn the TV on, what do they get but documentaries, English lessons, historical dramas? Their emotional release seems to be eating, which they do with a gusto in which all their passions are surely sublimated. The grander restaurants of Peking generally have two sections, one for bigwigs and foreigners, the other for the masses. Though the downstairs rooms are usually rough and ready, with linoleum tablecloths and creaky old electric fans, an equally riotous festivity attends them all.

No wonder the Chinese are such hypochondriacs. They live so strangely, I was coming to feel in a condition of such crossed uncertainty and brainwash, that psychotic illness must be rampant. I went to one restaurant devoted to the cult of Dietotherapy sponsored by another 300-year-old herb store, and was not surprised to find it prospering mightily. When I told the waiter I was suffering from headaches and general debility, he prescribed Sautéed Chicken with Fruit of Chinese Wolfberry, followed by Giant Prawns Steamed in Ginger. They worked: I walked out feeling terrific.

John Morris 1983

Tomorrow
A long walk round the
earth's bored quarter

moreover...
Miles Kington

The last live picture show

"Visit one of the last live strip-tease shows around!" says the sign in Brewer Street, Soho.

"Personally, I blame the video games," said old Mo Kanary. "They're staying at home to play Spice Invaders, or whatever it's called. They're too lazy to seek out live entertainment."

"Personally, I blame the violin menders and pasta-makers," said old Alf Deadwood. "All this area is being taken over by trendy craftsmen. Hand-made bicycles. Second-hand books. Graphic bloody artists."

"Do you know where the Sexy Pigalle used to be?" said Mo. "Know what they've got there now?"

"No," said Alf. "Something to do with silkscreens, I expect."

"A games shop," said Mo. "Chess, and snakes and ladders, and dominoes, all hand-carved by women with long hair and wholesome clothes."

"Remember Sue the Snake Girl?" said Alf.

"No."

"She had an act based on snakes and ladders. She climbed up this ladder with a python called Stafford Cripps, and got it to take all her clothes off. Very classy, it was. She kept the act going for, oh, 10 years or more. She used to go on holiday when the python hibernated or something, then come back. Anyway, one day the ladder collapsed under her and she broke a leg, and do you know what?"

"No," said Mo.

"That snake was so popular with the punters that next week it went on by itself. Got a great big round of applause. You don't get loyalty like that with people today. If people want to see a snake they stay home and watch David Attenborough with a bleeding boa constrictor on the telly. Rotten snakes, too. Did you ever see a boa constrictor taking David Attenborough's clothes off?"

"No," said Mo.

"Well, then," said Alf.

"They were sitting in the saloon bar of the Pump and Noddy, one of the last of the old Soho pubs. They sat here every day, having the same conversation. The next step was for Mo to blame Westminster Council."

"Personally, I blame Westminster. Cracking down on the dirty film places. Well, all right, but then we get it in the neck as well, and we were Art. Remember Mary the Amazing Model?"

"No," said Alf.

"She used to enact scenes from famous paintings, all nude of course. There was one called the Judgement of Paris I used to enjoy, where she did amazing things with apples. And the Death of Nelson."

"That's not a nude painting."

"It was the way she did it. 'Kiss me, Hardy!' she used to cry. That was the signal for the blackout."

"Culture, that's what it was, culture. Artistic. Lots of lads, down from the north, football game or something. It was the first time lots of them had seen a naked woman. They got a good introduction. Artistic. Something to remember."

"One day she did a painting called the Flight of Icarus. She broke her leg too."

"You had a lot of legs broken in your place, my old son."

"Yes, well, you've got to take risks in live art, haven't you? Do you remember Fifi the Flying French Girl?"

"Yes," said Alf. "I married her."

"Oh yes," said Mo. "So you did. Sorry."

They both fell silent, thinking back to the great days of theatre. It was generally about this point that the conversation came full circle.

"Personally, I blame the video games," said Mo.

"Out," said the barman.

(From Tales of Old Soho, *Moreover Publications*, only £15 - all right, two quid to you, squire.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 244)

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FASHION

by Suzy Menkes

Spinning a yarn

Knitting is now all on the surface with texture and unusual materials giving a new dimension to the stitches

The yarn is the thing to capture the attention of today's knitters. Unusual yarns, and especially combinations of different weights and textures, give a fresh dimension to the simplest hand-knitting. Instead of multi-patterns and complex stitchcraft, the fashion story is now focused on the surface.

Those spinning a yarn will congregate at Needlecraft '84, the exhibition later this month held for the trade only. The news for spring is the summer weights such as linen, silk and especially cotton. Major spinners such as Lister-Lee are promoting English-spun cottons, and designers Suzanne Russell of Rocco and Sandy Black have both gone into the yarn business using British spinners.

Fancy effects come from slub cotton and linens, from ribbons knitted in as a yarn, especially effective with frayed edges to give the fashionably ragged effect.

The yarn story is part of the designer-led boom in hand-knitting. Patricia Roberts was the first to turn her frustration at a lack of quality and colour choice to practical advantage. She now exports her yarns and has three London shops and a thriving mail order business. The more sophisticated hand-knitting market is the target of Yarnworks whose range of Lancashire-spun pure cotton in vibrant colours - five yarns and 30 patterns - goes on sale this spring. Sandy Black started with her own designer sweaters, developed a flourishing knit kit business and is now launching her cotton fizz - a textured yarn to be followed by angora and wool. Christian de la Falbe started last year to supply the yarn he uses for his designer sweaters to the public. His linen, cotton and pure silk are being launched at Needlecraft '84. (Shade cards are available with see to Studio Yarns, 97 Wakehurst Road, London SW11 6BZ).

Although the British spinners are pulling up their once sober socks, the French companies are very strong on fashion yarns. A cavern of colour and tactile treasures is now downstairs at Rie's Wools of Holborn in their Laines Anny Blatt shop. These upmarket yarns include feather-light mohairs, sensuous angora,

crunchy cottons and ribbon coordinated in colour to the summer yarns. Multi-textured sweaters in big simple shapes with all the interest in the yarns, worked into abstract patterns, are shown in the high fashion Anny Blatt booklets.

On the wild-side - and influenced by the African beat pulsating through next sum-

mer's fashions - is Pingouin's Raphia.

The Yorkshire-based firm of Sunbeam is coming out this spring with a machine-washable cotton in 12 colours. Sunbeam's high-fashion summer yarns, (in Harrods and major stores after the sales) include two fancy slubs in cotton, linen and acrylic. They also do 22 shades of Aran wool, including a high-fashion royal blue and black for those who want to knit up something warm for winter.

It isn't only the yarns which have changed. The selling of knitting to the public has been transformed by the new breed of craft-oriented retailers. At Yarncraft, 112a Westbourne Grove, W11, customers can stretch their skills, and choose from a selection of knitting and weaving books and equipment. This week Angela Lodge of Yarncraft launches the first of her own yarns - in black and white - which she intends to market in response to the craft user's need for natural yarns. "I believe very strongly in pure worsted or pure cotton for our creative knitters and weavers," she explains.

Laines Couture, 20 Bedford Street, Covent Garden WC2, have built up a loyal clientele who understand the business of stitchcraft and want to knit to an artistic standard. Craft-type yarn suppliers are springing up all across the country in a response to such consumers.

The big stores also are keen on high-fashion designs and interesting yarns. Dickens and Jones carry the best of the British spinners spiced with innovations such as rag ribbons. Harrods have a wide range of new cottons coming in for spring, including Pingouin's Tricotine and Sandy Black's kits.

The kit business has also spread across the country, often launched as a small mail order business by the very people who supply the yarns to the designers. Naturally Beautiful of Dent, Cumbria set up with a selection of kits in cotton, silk and wool (like the one photographed on this page). Some of the designs of the small kit companies seem to be very basic and I think that they will find strong competition from the revamped designs of the big knitwear companies.

Lister-Lee have produced a designers collection booklet for their Tahiti mohair range that comes in 35 shades, including a shocking pink and a magenta. Emu are presenting patterns that look like the editorial features that first introduced high fashion to home knitters. And the kids kit people will find Copley's *Wind in the Willows* sweaters hard to beat. You buy Toad, Ratty, Mole or Badger as a picture kit at £1.95 (the sweater wool is separate). Mail order from The Yarn Barn, Whitehouse, Westfield Lane, Idle, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD10 8PY - (postage and packaging 70p).

Wool and silk mix sweater by Dent Knit Designer Kits. Yarn in ecru, beige, lilac, fuchsia, French navy, sage, gold, russet, pearl grey. Kit with instructions, yarn: small £25.50, medium £31.90 from Knitters of Dent, Main Street, Dent Sedburgh, Cumbria LA 10 5QL, post free. Colour leaflet of designs available for sale. Brick red wool skirt with castellated hem £90 by Zwi from Jones, 77 King's Road SW3.

Hair by VICKY at MOLTON BROWN using unspun wool kit £5.95 from 58 South Molton Street. Make-up by ELENA for MOLTON BROWN. Photographs by NICK BRIGGS

SNIPPETS

There's now so queer as folks' feet, hiplines or personal taste. If you want clothes made-to-measure or painted-to-order, my colleague Beryl Downing, the Shopping Editor, has collated an impressive selection of services.

The craft revival is the genius of her book: small businesses have restored individual service - even if it is now done on the end of a telephone from Cumbria.

Where Can I Get...? (Pingouin £2.50) could find you an ivory handled umbrella in a Victorian print to match your wedding dress, or a Cheshire lady to make you up as Cleopatra for a fancy dress party.

Twelve sections cover not just your body and clothes, but also

Multi-textured bathing sleeve sweater knitted in four yarns - kid mohair, angora, silk, and wool blend. Abstract pattern through to black. Laines Anny Blatt. Yarn cost £49 from Rie's Wools, 242 Strand WC1, mail order free. Ready-made sweater £136, post free. Herringbone skirt £47 by Anny Blatt at Rie's Wools.

Wool mix, viscose ribbon black, white, shades of grey. Yarn Book 1, price £1.99. Yarn WC1, mail order free. Yarn Book 1, price £1.99. Yarn WC1, mail order free. Yarn Book 1, price £1.99. Yarn WC1, mail order free.

EDINA & ELENA
WINTER
SALE

STARTING
SATURDAY 14th JANUARY
Up to 50% off
141 King's Rd., London SW3

Texture goes to the head

Hair styles today often say more about someone than clothes. Hairdressing is a sophisticated and innovative industry and mainstream looks change with the seasons.

If one of your resolutions for the new year is to update your image, be prepared to move away from the slick, neat head shapes to a softer, freer style.

This year will see the evolution of the bob, with hair moving forward onto the face. Texture is the most important trend - achieved by precision cutting of shorter and longer lengths. Trevor Sorbie's "chop" (picture below) reminds one of the *comp sauvage* but the silhouette is more sculptured. The hair is often section-permed for fullness. The effect can be created on longer hair, another fashion trend for men and women this year.

Style leaders Vidal Sassoon are on the same wave length



Trevor Sorbie's textured cut, brushed forward.

with their "Olympic" collection of softly textured, well-defined shapes.

Colour will be subtler for spring and summer, used to complement rather than contrast with the natural hair tone. Knightsbridge hairdresser Allan Sol, stylist to pop superstars such as Duran Duran, streaks in three of four colours along the length of the hair. Fiery orange and rich spicy shades have replaced the reds, says Carmel at Clifford Stafford. Joshua Galvin colour-contrasts with streaks and highlights.

Just as high fashion no longer dictates style in clothes, you can no longer recognize a decade by the hair style. Hair is going to all lengths. Michaeljohn has put the emphasis on ease; to manage styles with a sense of movement. Smile, who opened the first unisex salon and have a new shop at 434 King's Road, SW10, adapt hair to the client's lifestyles. Their clients range from film stars to King's Road trendies.

Glamour is still important for the evening and Gregor Schumi showed a wide range of hair pieces at a recent Elida hair-spray show. Trevor Anthony at 64 Blandford Street are following the retro theme with 1960s-style tousled bobs and dressed long hair.

Glemby are using razor-cutting for a spiky, layered look. Ricci Burns is also using the razor for a wider look, and hair is often left longer on top and graduated through the sides and back.

Christine Paineil

SAINT LAURENT
rive gauche
73 & 113 New Bond Street, W1 SALE 35 & 84 Brompton Road, SW3

Sanderson Sale.
Dec. 29th-Jan. 14th.
(Closed Monday Jan. 2nd)
Monday-Friday-9.30am-5.30pm
(Thursday-9.30am-7.00pm)
Saturday-9.30am-2.00pm
Sanderson
Berners St., London W1. Tel: 01-636 7800
Oxford Circus or Tottenham Court Road Tube Stations

MAXWELL CROFT
The Fur Sale for Connoisseurs

For those who are unable to discern the difference between good, bad and indifferent, there are a great many all the year round 'Bargain Reduction Fur Sales'.

The discerning woman who demands the finest quality at the keenest prices need go no further than to 105/106 New Bond Street.

The furs are magnificent - the prices tempting beyond words - but our winter sale is only on until 23rd January, so do come early.

MAXWELL CROFT
105/106 New Bond Street London W1
Tel: 01-629 6226

Joseph
6 Sloane Street.
AZZEDINE ALAIA
CALUDE MONTANA
YOHJI YAMAMOTO
CERRUTI
and many other
Designer Names.

JOSEPH TRICOT
18 Sloane Street.
16 South Molton St.
53 Kings Road, SW3.
COLLECTION OF
KNITWEAR
REDUCED BY 30%

CHINESE LAUNDRY
14 South Molton St.
23 Brompton Arcade
KATHRINE HAMNETT
ALL STOCK REDUCED
BY 40%

KENZO
17 Sloane St. W1.
13 South Molton St.

OUR FANTASTIC
SALES
START ON
SATURDAY, 7TH
JANUARY



But that is certainly not all there is to it. If the convocation of West Bank members to yesterday's meeting could, at a pinch, be ascribed to a meticulous concern for constitutional

Bethlehem, one of the youngest members to attend yesterday's meeting, abstained in the vote even though he considers that he has "as much right to speak for the West Bank as does the PLO".

The chances are that Mr Arafat will soon go to Amman and resume the negotiations, for to turn his back on both Amman and Damascus simultaneously would leave him an impossibly narrow political base. He should go there, and he should reach agreement with the King on the principle of negotiating with Israel. Equally Israel's leaders, who have shown some statesmanship in allowing West Bankers to cross the Jordan for yesterday's meeting, should not use Mr Arafat's involvement as an excuse for refusing to negotiate. Too often in the past Zionist leaders have assumed that a Hashemite ruler on his own has authority to settle the Palestinian problem. They should not make the same mistake again.

The development of the new broadcasting technologies presents conditions the economic textbooks might call perfect for the operation of a free market with corporations and individuals willing to invest large amounts and profit (or lose) accordingly. Sir Ian's argument might be compatible with this view: let the market run free as long as the BBC stands, beacon-like, no longer worried (he says) about mass audiences and competition. But this is too narrow. The Government's response to Hunt showed its awareness that the new media cannot be immune from regulation, however tight the hand that applies it. Its expression of the public interest in satellite broadcasting is now awaited.

the widest scale if industrialized Europe is to have any chance of pursuing enlightened policies of environmental protection. Wrong choices could mean the wasting of thousands of millions of pounds. Where the benefit of Europe as a whole requires countries which are only minor sufferers to adopt costly safeguards for the benefit of their neighbours, collaboration both on policies and on costs will be necessary to achieve an international solution to an international problem.

Yours faithfully,
C. R. J. CURRIE, Deputy Editor,
Victoria History of the Counties of
England,
Institute of Historical Research,
University of London,
Senate House, WC1.
January 4.

North Sea oil has added seven per cent to our potential GNP, all of which meant an improvement in our balance of payments, through reduced oil imports and increased exports of gas. At the same time the producing "industry" is a highly peculiar one in that only two per cent of its "value added" represents wages and salaries; the rest goes to profits and tax. (In the coal industry, by contrast, 70 per cent is "added" represents wages; in industry in general the rate is 70 per cent.)

Hence you cannot expect "supply" to create its own demand" as is assumed to happen as a result of higher productivity. To enable foreign countries to pay for our increased production, we must demand sufficiently to exploit our enlarged GNP-potential through increased investment, public or private,

Yours.
CLEWDYN OF
PENRHOS
ELWYN JONES
JULIAN HODGE
ROGER IC BOWEN
ELWYN DAVIES
ISLWYN DAVIES
W. A. TWISTON
DAVIES
ALLUN EVANS

T. MYRDDIN EVANS
W. EYRS EVANS
A. J. GOODING
ROGER GRAHAM
PALMER
H. HARRIS
GERAINT HOWE
S. G. JONES
EMWYN JONES
AWSTIN WILLIAMS

The Honourable Society of
Cymmrodorion.
30 Eastcastle Street, W1.
December 31.

Lord Annan's proposal that tenure should not be granted before age 35 has therefore been the *de facto* position in many universities for many years.

Lord Annan is also incorrect in stating that "the taxpayers had to spend £100m" to avoid breach of contract actions from the 3,000 university staff the Government wished to cut. As a vice-chancellor at the critical period before the cuts he will remember that the Com-

England did not come into existence in the sixteenth century; it reformed itself then, but you cannot reform what does not already exist.

An authoritative definition of the Church of England is to be found in the Revised Catechism where it is plainly stated that "The Church of

A battery's life

everything seems to need a battery, and in everyone's interest (except the battery retailer's) for all batteries to be dated?

Over the Christmas period four of six batteries I purchased were found to be of extremely low power; one quite rusty on its base in its shrink-wrapping. They were all bought at different places, but one had little knowledge as to how they had been stored, or how long the stock had been in the shops.

Yours faithfully,
M. M. KITCHEN,
Gill Barn,
Bassetsbury Lane,
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

From Dr Colin Humphreys
Sir, Mr Enoch Powell (January 5)
and Dr Geza Vermes (January 3)
raise several questions concerning
the work of Dr Waddington and
myself which determined the date of
the Crucifixion to be Friday, April 3,
AD 33 (published in *Nature*,
December 22, and reported in *The*
Times, December 23).

From Mr G. K. Toole-Mackson
Sir, As the solicitor who represented
Mrs Doris Croft at her trial for
murder eight years ago, I feel
permitted to comment on your
reporter's article in *The Times* of
December 28 regarding life
sentences?

The basic facts in the cases of Mrs
Croft and Mrs Megginson may be
very similar, but the details and
surrounding circumstances of both
the cases and the accused were
different as is shown by the
respective sentences passed. Such
details are vital to establish an
article on such a serious topic.

In the case of Mrs Croft there was
no hole-in-the-corner deal between
the prosecution and defence as
Specious says and Mrs Croft
waited for murder. Her trial lasted
four days. Both provocation and
diminished responsibility were put
before the jury and the 84-year-old
mother and other relatives of the
deceased voluntarily gave evidence
for Mrs Croft.

From Mr Philip Joseph
Sir, I read with a feeling of utter disbelief the article (December 27) by your Sale Room Correspondent on Sotheby's breaking up the four volumes of Audubon's *Birds of America* and selling them off plate by plate.

The world's stock of old, complete colour plate books is very finite and it inspired in me the same degree of horror as if I had read of the bisecting of "The Nightwatch".

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP JOSEPH,
Books Etc. Ltd.
120 Charing Cross Road, WC2.
December 30.

From Mr R. N. Pepper
Sir, Your leading article of December 31 last should be strongly supported, for we are all liable to be caught in the traps against which you warn.

The danger inherent in what you describe as "a progressive use of vague abstract concepts... susceptible to often incompaible interpretation" has been stressed for years with all too little effect.

Carl Jung, in *Memories, Dreams and Reflections*, classified as "perilous abstractions" the attempts to dominate "everything by the intellect... substituting for psychology apparently secure, artificial, but merely two-dimensional conceptual world in which the reality of life is well covered up by so-called clear concepts... the spirit," he said, "does not dwell on concepts, but in deeds and facts".

That links with your quotation from Le Bon and Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, and with Professor Sir Herbert Butterfield, who, in one his Riddell memorial lectures 1953, referring to the secularizing of our civilization, beginning in the eighteenth century, said "it is remarkable to see how quickly men who had got rid of Christian God began to create fictitious deities for themselves of abstract nouns and concepts in the state".

Yours faithfully,
R. N. PEPPER.
Eldon Chambers,
3 College Green,
Gloucester.
January 6.

From Mr T. R. Burch
Sir, Here is another sobering thought for Mr Raymond Durrant (Jan 25). If 2,337 motorists were to be "randomly" and 40 tests per year, positive, it means that on average one driver out of every 60 he is probably drunk. Actually, I thought it was more than that.

Yours faithfully,
T. R. BURCH,
Aberdour,
Burgh Heath,
Surrey.
January 5.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Charter buys full stake in Rowe & Pitman

Rowe & Pitman, London's premier stockbrokers accelerated the link-ups taking place in the City yesterday when it announced two major partnerships. Insiders are already looking for another big deal shortly.

The brokers have sold a 29.9 per cent stake, the maximum permitted, to Charter Consolidated, the mining and industrial conglomerate, for £16.2m, and thus satisfactorily avoided the conflict-of-interest problems that have so dogged attempts by brokers to form partnerships with other financial institutions.

In its second deal it has formed an international dealing subsidiary with Akroyd & Smithers, one of London's two biggest jobbers, that will be capitalized at £17m. Akroyd last November, announced that it had sold a 29.9 per cent stake to Mercury Securities, the owners of the merchant bank S.G. Warburg, for £41m.

And to complicate matters further, Akroyd and S.G. Warburg formally announced the creation of their own dealing firm in New York which will specialize in fixed interest, and other debt related stock.

Despite appearances, the three deals dovetail neatly and go some way to illustrate the logistics involved for member firms gearing-up for the future, once the Stock Exchange has completed its liberalization programme.

Rowe & Pitman is the institutions' favourite broker for equity and overseas securities trading. That means institutions managing £300 billion give Rowe & Pitman a respectable slice of their business.

Rowe & Pitman is an unlimited partnership; its profit and loss figures are secret. So the precise basis of the agreement was not disclosed, although both Mr Neil Clark, chief executive of Charter and Mr Peter Wilmot-Sitwell of Rowe confirmed that Charter will receive 29.9 per cent of Rowe's profits for the £16.2m and did review the broker's books. "It is what Charter considered us to be worth," Mr Wilmot-Sitwell was candid enough to confirm.

"We have spoken to people from all over the world," he added, "but the problem has always been one of a conflict-of-interest." With one of the strongest private client lists in the City, including Charter Consolidated, for the past 50 years, the broker could ill afford to find itself connected to a merchant bank involved in an aggressive action against a client company.

As senior partner, Mr Wilmot-Sitwell has long made public his view that Britain's brokers do not have enough capital to compete effectively with the American and Japanese giants so aggressively moving towards 24-hour international trading.

The potential of the changes taking place in London, widely expected to lead to multi-faceted financial service companies, is what proved to be the attraction for Charter Consolidated.

Charter has long been building up its own financial services in-house. It is already known as an active share-trader and is moving away from its less than brilliant mining finance business. It has a growing leasing operation, fund management for outside interests, offers investment advice and owns a 27 per cent interest in the bullion dealers and merchant bankers, Johnson Matthey.

Outside stakes in SE firms

June 1982	Security Pacific - Hoare Govett (28m)
Nov 1982	RIT & Northern - Kitcat & Aitken (na)
Nov 1983	Citicorp - Vickers de Costa (£20m)
Nov 1983	Mercury Securities - Akroyd & Smithers (£41m)
Dec 1983	Prudential-Bache form own brokerage
Dec 1983	N.M. Rothschild - Smith Brothers (£8.5m)

Remaining prime targets
Phillips & Drew, Wedd Durlacher, Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee, Cazenove, Greenwell, de Zoete & Bevan (James Capel and Greaveson Grant have stated their intention of remaining independent)

The two firms settled the deal a few weeks ago, having been in informal discussions for some months. Neither side claims to have considered the natural integration of all those services under one umbrella. "We'll take it one step at a time," says Mr Clark. "We have concluded a number of basic understandings as we looked to what may evolve."

That does not include, apparently, an option for Charter to take up the remaining Rowe equity if and when the rules permit. Although Rowe was quick to say that Charter would in future be involved in consultations on any important deals.

Having gained what Mr Wilmot-Sitwell describes as a "Comfortable foundation now that our own substantial reserves have been added to" Rowe & Pitman went on to strengthen its one weak area internationally, the lack of jobbing expertise or market making.

That was particularly convenient for Akroyd & Smithers whose own deal with S.G. Warburg left it lacking a strong client list to trade for.

It is interesting that the deals most quickly done have been between banks and jobbers where the conflict of interest does not really occur and where the capital demands will be great. Institutions deal in the hundreds of thousands of shares.

The new international dealing subsidiary is to be jointly owned but reflects the disproportionate size of the two companies: Akroyd is contributing £11m and Rowe £6m. Both will channel all their international equity business through the new company which will be called, not surprisingly, Rowe & Pitman and Akroyd & Smithers.

The only two international centres where the two are not already represented are in Australia - where rivals Smith Brothers are experts - and Canada.

The deal is undoubtedly a good one for the jobbers, whose shares reflected the view by climbing 17p to 465p a share. It has formed links with two companies who are acknowledged as the experts in their field. One in equities and the other in bonds.

Reflecting that distinction, Akroyd announced the formation of a New York office in conjunction with S.G. Warburg to deal specifically in fixed interest and other debt related bonds. In London that will mean a leading force in the Eurobond market.

Akroyd must be congratulated for its risk-taking flair in acting as a catalyst for a combination which has great potential.

Texaco bids \$1.1bn for Getty as Pennzoil move fails

By Philip Robinson and Bailey Morris

Texaco, America's third largest oil company, formally launched its record \$1.1 billion (£790 million) takeover bid for Getty Oil yesterday.

Getty's shares soared to a record \$418 on Wall Street as the company's stock at \$125 a share. Earlier in the day Texaco had already announced it held contracts and an option to purchase 56.6 per cent of the \$8.3 billion Getty shares in issue.

Details of the proposed merger which would result in the biggest acquisition yet in the US, were unveiled over the weekend following several days of frantic negotiations in which Texaco was able to outbid its rival, Pennzoil, for control.

Completion of the offer will be delayed for 15 days in keeping with US anti-trust requirements. It was not clear whether the deal would be approved by the Justice Department or the Federal Trade Commission.

Texaco's bid, which would create the world's second largest oil company, slightly ahead of Mobil, but still well behind Exxon.

The speed with which Texaco engineered the takeover, agreement signed on Friday when it had been widely expected that Pennzoil would complete a \$5.2 billion takeover of Getty.

Texaco's chairman and CEO, George W. Mitchell, said that the company had agreed with Getty's shareholders that it had agreed with Mr Gordon Getty, chairman of the Getty Oil Trust, which holds 44 per cent of the shares, that the two

firm a new company and bid \$5.3 billion for Getty Oil. Two days later it appeared Mr Getty had changed his mind, and by Friday Texaco announced it had agreed to buy 71.8 per cent of Getty Oil from the J Paul Getty Museum and the Getty Trust, in addition to the 11.8 per cent museum stake.

It has also been granted an option to purchase up to 10 per cent which have yet to be issued. The three agreements would effectively give Texaco 60 per cent of Getty Oil.

Meanwhile, Pennzoil said last night that it was preparing to issue two writs - one against

Texaco in Delaware and another in California against Getty. One would seek to block the takeover on anti-trust grounds; the other would seek to force Getty to follow through on an agreement to sell Pennzoil 8 million shares at \$110 a share as part of a leveraged buyout.

Getty said yesterday it would sue on legal action seeking a ruling that its agreement with Pennzoil was only preliminary and therefore non-binding.

J. Hugh Liedtke, the Pennzoil chairman, had already issued a statement saying that he would raise very serious questions of national policy.

There is no restraint on such issues is forthcoming, small and large oil companies will shortly be swallowed by the giants.

UK to sign fast breeder reactor pact

By Jonathan Davies, Financial Correspondent

Britain will today formally sign a deal with five European countries committing it to joint development of fast breeder nuclear reactor technology.

The deal will be signed in Paris by Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy. The other signatories will be France, the acknowledged leader of fast breeder technology in Europe, Italy, West Germany, Belgium and The Netherlands.

The agreement marks the end of Britain's long standing policy of seeking to develop an independent fast breeder capability in favour of what is now regarded as the more cost effective option of collaboration with other European countries.

The decision to seek international partners was taken by the Government after an extensive review of its fast breeder programme in 1982. Britain had a prototype 250 megawatt fast breeder reactor in operation since the middle 1970s at Dounreay in Scotland.

The Government decided against proceeding with the development of an independent commercial fast breeder reactor, which could have cost up to £2 billion, in favour of the joint European development of a commercial reactor.

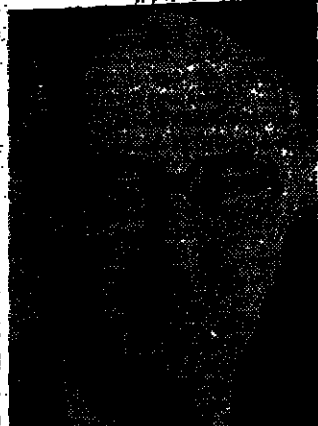
Today's deal, which was foreshadowed four months ago in a Government announcement, will give Britain access to valuable information about France's pioneering 1200 MW SuperPhenix fast breeder reactor near Lyon.

In return, the European countries will have access to the experience gained by Britain with its Dounreay prototype, and the design work it has done for a possible full-scale reactor.

Britain is the world leader in fast breeder fuel cycle technology. Today's announcement is also expected to reveal more details about what part Britain will now play in the two further large-scale fast breeder reactors - one in France, one in Germany - which are planned to follow the first SuperPhenix plant, believed to be the largest of its kind in the world.

Announcing the decision to join the European fast breeder "club" in September, Mr Walker said that this would give Britain both economic and technical benefits. Future collaboration with the United States or Japan has not been ruled out.

Fast breeder reactors are likely one day to replace conventional thermal nuclear power stations. They are fuelled by plutonium rather than uranium.



Top jobs: Basil Collins, chairman and John Greeniaus, executive

Nabisco head confirmed

By Jonathan Clark

Mr Basil Collins' appointment as chairman of Nabisco Brands has been confirmed. He is the former deputy chairman and chief executive of Cadbury Schweppes.

Mr John Greeniaus, who was appointed Nabisco's deputy chairman last September, will become the company's chief executive.



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Schweppes moves back to Japan

By John Lawless

Cadbury Schweppes yesterday announced that it is to make a second attempt to break one of the world's toughest barriers - Japanese soft drinks.

Breweries which it hopes to sell sales of £50m a year in Japan.

Schweppes will ship its Asahi and concentrates to where Asahi, part of the Asahi Group, will bottle and distribute them. Asahi is the only western company to have truly broken Japan's worst "hidden" barrier - its multi-tiered distribution system - by setting up its own.

It has almost half of the world's fifth largest, annual consumption run-ning at 2.7 billion litres. Schweppes had failed to get its carbonated soft drinks beyond the bars of the best hotels under a 1962 deal which was wound up years ago.

Adrian Cadbury, the company's chairman, said yesterday that Schweppes was most of the important of the world, for far too long there has been one giant gap and that is

Kameoka, chairman of Asahi Breweries, in Japan for the signing ceremony. "Significantly," he said, "per capita consumption of carbonated soft drinks has reached only 23 under half that in

Kameoka said: "Since the market shows such tremendous potential, Asahi is determined to strengthen its position to the point at which we can constitute 50 per cent of total sales."

Schweppes knows that it will spend heavily on marketing if it is to get its carbonated soft drinks accepted as soft drinks on an even right, rather than as a mixed with

Whitbread pays £18m for Lornie off licence

By Philip Robinson

Whitbread yesterday became Britain's third largest off licence owner. It has agreed to pay £18m to buy 325 shops in the North and Midlands from Lornie, the international trading group. The shops are operated by T. F. Ashe & Nephew.

Whitbread also takes over eight small beer and soft drink packaging companies as part of the deal. Lornie will receive payment in two stages - £15m now and £3m next year.

The sale will give Whitbread, which operates the Thresher chain of off licences mainly in the South of England, a total of 730 off licences in England and Wales. This lifts its ranking in the off licence-owning league from fifth to third behind Bass and Allied Lyons.

A spokesman for Whitbread said: "We approached Lornie

Wall Street forges ahead

New York (AP-Dow Jones)

Stocks broadened their gains in heavy trading early yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 3 1/2 points to 1,290 after showing some hesitation at the start. It picked up strength, however, and moved easily through the record closing high of 1,287.20 on November 29.

Advancing issues were nearly 3-to-2 ahead of declines.

Group Results: The group's results for the year ended 27th August 1988 increased by 22m (1.2m) compared with 1987. This year 64% of outside the UK Group's contribution on a high of 10.1m compared with 5.5m in 1987. This percentage increase below the industry average of 11%.

The continued pressure on profit margins

Finance: The group's main source of funds remains in a strong position and net borrowings are low. Shareholders' funds are strong.

Capital: The group's total capital of £18m was increased by £1m to £19m. Expenditure on research and development was £1.2m, an increase on £0.8m in 1987. The group's total capital expenditure was £1.2m, an increase on £0.8m in 1987.

Operations: The group's operations are well diversified and are well positioned for the future. The group's operations are well diversified and are well positioned for the future.

Research and Development: The group's research and development expenditure was £1.2m, an increase on £0.8m in 1987. The group's total capital expenditure was £1.2m, an increase on £0.8m in 1987.

The Wellcome Foundation Limited is a public company limited by guarantee. The results shown above are an abridged version of the audited financial statements which contain an unqualified audit report. They have not yet been delivered to the registrar of companies.

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Index rises to 800

The FT Index of 30 leading shares rose above 800 for the first time yesterday, but the point fell to a record low against the US dollar.

This was the contrasting scene as optimism about Britain's economic outlook (and a wide array of weekend share tips) pushed the index to 801.9 points at the opening. Later prices eased, but then responded to late buying burst. The index closed at 800.0, a rise on the day of 52.7 points.

On the foreign exchange market, sterling fell to \$1.3910 but recovered to close at \$1.4050 - down 20 points. It remained firm against the other important currencies.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 800.0 up 5.7
FT All Shares: 486.76 up 3.13
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 101.37 up 0.02
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1290.31 up 3.67
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 1,005.3 up 71.36
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 337.46 up 27.90
Amsterdam: 174.1 down 1.0
Sydney: AO Index 787.9 up 1.1

Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1063.6 up 0.9
Brussels: General Index 137.8 down 0.17
Paris: CAC Index 163.7 up 2.2
Zurich: SKA General Index 321.90 up 0.40

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4050 down 20pts
Index 81.7 unchanged
DM 3.9650 up 0.01
FF 12.09 up 0.0325
Yen 327 down 0.50
Dollar Index 132.0 up 0.7
DM 2.8300 up 0.0215
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4005
Dollar DM 2.8300
INTERNATIONAL
ECU20.571088
SDR20.736389

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9%
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market loans week fixed 9%
3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 1/2-9 3/4
3 month DM 6 1/2-5 1/2
3 month FF 13 1/2-13

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/2
Treasury long bond 10 1/2-10 1/4

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$364.25 pm \$365.25
close \$366.50-367.25 (\$261.75-262.25)
New York (latest): \$365.80
Kruggerand (per coin): \$377.50-379 (\$269-270.75)
Sovereigns (new): \$85.75-86.75 (\$261-262)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Italians buy 20% of Empire

Two big Italian retailing companies have taken a 20 per cent stake in Empire Stores, the Bradford mail order house. The two companies, Sefina and Gerco, were already small shareholders and will provide fashion garments and technological expertise to Empire. They are subscribing for 4.8 million new shares at 80p each which will raise £3.7m net and improve Empire's balance sheet. The creation of the new shares will also dilute the 30 per cent in Empire held by Great Universal Stores. Its stake will be reduced to just over 26 per cent but it will still be required to eventually cut it to less than 10 per cent by a monopolies ruling.

Unilever said in Rotterdam yesterday that its United States subsidiary will take over the Shedd-Margarine Group of Bette Foods of Chicago. Shedd, with headquarters in Detroit, produces margarine at seven sites in America. The group's sales for the present fiscal year will be more than \$200m (£143m).

Mr Lewis Cartier, who is making a £6.3m part bid for Maynards, the sweet and toy company, has attacked the basis of the strong asset backing claimed by the board in its defence document. He says in a letter to shareholders that property represents less than 25 per cent of the total assets.

Tea prices soared again yesterday as dealers competed for supplies at the weekly London tea auction. A record price of £3.85 was paid for a kilo of Kenya Tea - 25p more than the highest price last week.

The Tayside Enterprise Zone was launched yesterday by Secretary of State for Scotland Mr George Younger.

Lear Fan to cut 90 jobs

From Our Correspondent Belfast

Lear Fan, the company set up near Belfast to build carbon fibre business aircraft, is to pay off about one fifth of its workforce because of the delay in obtaining a US certificate of airworthiness.

The company announced yesterday that about 90 of the 500 workers would be made redundant. However, the move to a more spacious plant at nearby Antrim, which the company is buying from British Enkalon, will go ahead.

Last year, much of the workforce spent several months on short time because of earlier development difficulties.

Mr Murdoch stressed that there was no link between the Warner affair and the corporation's bond issue on the Swiss market, which had been arranged beforehand.

The issue, for News Corporation Limited by Newscorp Netherlands Antilles, is for 10 years at 6 1/2 per cent. On offer from Thursday to January 17 are bearer bonds at SwFr5,000 and nominal at SwFr100,000.

Mr Murdoch said great opportunities lay ahead "in our mainline business of news communications". He believed programmes from direct broadcast satellites (DBS) were going to play a very significant role, with satellites becoming cheaper as laying cable became increasingly expensive. With a 30m dish, 16 channels would be available 24 hours a day, television programmes could be viewed by dialling the number on the television set, with billing at the end of each month.

The winners would not be the hardware companies but those producing the programmes. The future will still lie in software, Mr Murdoch said.

While the corporation had spent a year examining DBS potentialities, he had concluded it was probably two or three years ahead of its time and, therefore, had pulled back at the last minute. SATV, its British

Murdoch wants Warner chiefs out

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The possibility of a proxy fight to remove the management of Warner Communications was mentioned by Mr Rupert Murdoch in Geneva yesterday when he addressed bankers and investment managers before floating a bond issue - a minimum of SwFr100m (£31.4m) - for his News Corporation.

"We feel very hardy put upon by what has happened there," he said. "We're extremely critical of that management. We're going to go on and our present plan is that if we're successful in the courts or before the regulatory authorities we will certainly have a proxy fight to remove that management."

News Corporation was not inclined to pick up \$25m-\$30m profit on its 7 per cent share of the company acquired in recent months, he said.

In his view, control of Warner had passed out of the hands of the ordinary shareholders without being referred to a stockholders' meeting, a procedure that he described as flouting the rules and intentions of the New York Stock Exchange.

The danger, Mr Murdoch added, was that the "extravagance and mistakes of the corporate management" could endanger the company's major assets, particularly its film studio and television production company in Los Angeles.

gates where local management was "excellent" with "fine creative talent". "We feel that if this deal with Chris-Craft goes through, the value of the shares - everybody's shares - will decline dramatically and we wish to prevent that," he said.

Mr Murdoch said News Corporation had believed for several years that in building a media company of world significance a big film studio would be a "magnificent asset". Though it was not "breaking its neck" to get hold of one.

It had thought it could not go wrong in buying Warner shares - about \$101m (£71m) worth - as a passive investor. It had talked to the company and explained its intentions. The company had approved and later asked the corporation to buy no more. Then Warner had given control to another company, Chris-Craft. So the corporation was pursuing the matter in the courts and with regulatory agencies.

"How it will come out I cannot tell you," he said. "I can only promise you it will make some rich lawyers a lot richer."

He regarded the situation of the management as disastrous. "There may be a business in software, in selling games to children, but the horrifying thing is they think they can compete with IBM and Hewlett-Packard in home computers or with Bell Laboratories in

The Wellcome Foundation Limited

Summary of the financial statements	1983 1982
Turnover	674.4 592.5
Exports from the UK	127.6 123.4
Research and development expenditure	80.9 66.3
Profit before taxation	61.2

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

Little cheer for diamond trade

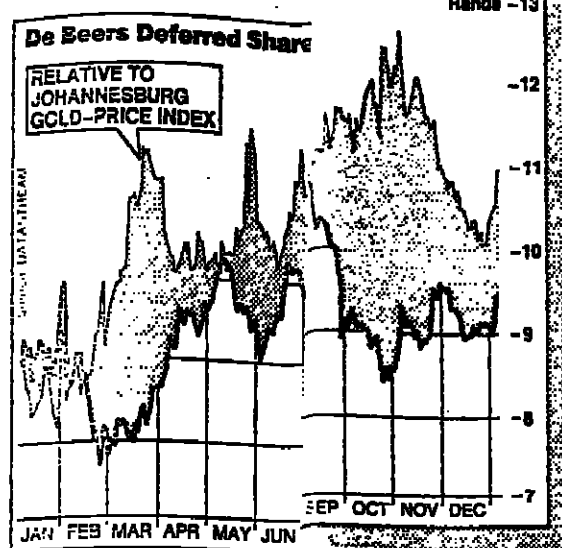
Next month is the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Diamond Trading Company, better known as the De Beers which manages the exclusive Central Selling Organisation. But if the latest CSO sales figures are a guide, the celebrations could be a little restrained.

In the second half of last year, world diamond sales totalled \$71.2m (£50.8m) compared with \$63.3m in the same period of 1982. This brings the grand total for the whole of 1983 to \$139.9m, an increase of 27 per cent over 1982. In rand terms the figures show an even faster increase.

Second half sales were \$81.1m, bringing the year's outcome to \$139.9m, a rise of 30 per cent. It is pointed out that last year saw a return to the usual pattern whereby first half sales, which include restocking after Christmas, are bigger than those of the second half. So why the worry?

One reservation is that diamond sales had gone up for three consecutive halves before the second half of 1983. To argue that a lower second half represents a return to normality (whatever that might be) in the contemporary financial environment conveniently ignores the substantial impact of Christmas buying. Without this harbinger of the euphoria in diamond sales, unless the psychology of the stock market spreads, no doubt the DTC is also being more careful of raising prices again.

But that said, the sustained holding operation by De Beers has left the trade in better shape - as the fall in bank borrowings from \$400m in the first half 1983 to \$360m in the second shows. By the same token, the company says results in 1983 will be better than in 1982. De Beers will be lucky to see its stockpile to a mere \$1.8bn. Shareholders will not see a



De Beers Deferred Share

RELATIVE TO JOHANNESBURG GOLD-PRICE INDEX

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

Rands - 13

-12 -11 -10 -9 -8 -7

-6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1

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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50

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Index surges above 800

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Dec. 30. Dealings end, Jan. 13. Contango Day, Jan. 15. Settlement Day, Jan. 23.

the erosion of oil market confidence over prices.

The index surged above the 800 points mark in early trading in response to a deluge of

Later this month Rank Organisation is expected to announce year's profits of £70m against £61.5m, despite a lower Xerox contribution. The new team of Sir Patrick Meany, the chairman, and Mr Michael Gifford, chief executive, has not yet had time to justify the faith of its institutional shareholder backers. But Mr Jack Summerscale at stockbroker de Zoete and Bevan believes profits could hit £102m in the present year, and he rates the shares a buy at 195p.

weekend Press tips and a strong performance by Wall Street on Friday. But with little immediate institutional interest prices eased back. Then a late flurry took the index back to exactly the 800 points mark - just

under two points below the peak hit in the morning surge.

As before a record breaking day there was a wide array of plus signs with the advances spread throughout the market and not just confined to the FT 30 index constituents.

Inchcape, the international traders where reports abound of a bid on institutional pressure, jumped 13p to 316p.

But troubled engineers John Brown failed to respond to some vague talk of a GEC approach and fell 1p to 21p.

Raybeck, the clothing group now claiming its way back into profits, gained 1p to 37p - making a 6p gain this year. Swiss buying is said to be responsible for the advance.

Midland Bank, reported in the US to be keen to buy the 43 per cent of its American Crocker Bank offshoot, gained 10p to 349p.

USM, the former Welpac, which packs nails and screws,

made an impressive debut, opening at 16p against a 10p placing level.

Elsewhere Style Shoes rose 13p to 26p on the Harris Queensway stake and some

After a decidedly sober run, shares of Greenall, Whitley, our largest regional brewing group, have started to display some enthusiasm. Yesterday, they rose 2p to 126p on growing hopes that the company is at last going to earn a worthwhile return from its Arrowsmith package tour business and that group's present year profits will top £2.5m against £2.4m.

modest buying by the controlling Ziff family.

Government stocks had an uneventful day. Uneasy at first on the pound's problems they eventually rallied to close with gains of up to 1/2p.

New life business - and take over gossip - lifted Britannic Assurance 14p to 472p. One

suggestion is that the German Allianz group thwarted in its epic struggle for Eagle Star - may now turn its attention to the company.

Ahead of figures soon Trident TV rose 5p to 140p. Bepak, another due to report, was 13p higher at 321p.

Gold shares were weak - falling on the back of the bullion price.

Among the leading engineers Hawker Siddeley rose 10p to 302p.

The strength of the tea price was good for stocks like Camella, up 30p at 770p.

Ballair, the little pharmaceutical company, recovered an early fall after a denial that the controlling shareholding had been sold. Harold Ingram, in the same stable, fell 40p to 313p.

The appearance of Ceramic Holdings, which has featured in bad battles in the past, with a 5 per cent share stake in Watts, Blake Beane lifted the shares of this china clay producer 6p to 168p.

There have been reports that Charter Consolidated is interested in WBB which recorded lower profits at its interim stage last year.

RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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Issue price in parentheses. * Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

BRITISH FUNDS

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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A - E

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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F - H

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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I - K

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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Atlantic oil stock AS industry, market party points index, cross, poor mark for the little Atlantic. BP at crashing near one time.

Talk of cash worries about needs and comments in the community is the slump.

Later the price - still 85p down - was set by a back and forth call of the whole was due to this BP fell 3p to 300p.

comparing the call price of the Government. The shares in the second instalment, course, the BP pri struck before and (Alaska) drill

BP fell 3p to 300p. The call price of the Government. The shares in the second instalment, course, the BP pri struck before and (Alaska) drill

STERLING: SPOT AND FORWARD

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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MONEY MARKET

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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OTHER MARKETS

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
Amalgamated (10p Ord) (1154)	115.4	0.0	11.2
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DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
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1924		1925		1926		1927		1928		1929		1930		1931		1932		1933		1934		1935		1936		1937		1938		1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944		1945		1946		1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961		1962		1963		1964		1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		1970		1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		1976		1977		1978		1979		1980		1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		1988		1989		1990		1991		1992		1993		1994		1995		1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		2027		2028		2029		2030		2031		2032		2033		2034		2035		2036		2037		2038		2039		2040		2041		2042		2043		2044		2045		2046		2047		2048		2049		2050		2051		2052		2053		2054		2055		2056		2057		2058		2059		2060		2061		2062		2063		2064		2065		2066		2067		2068		2069		2070		2071		2072		2073		2074		2075		2076		2077		2078		2079		2080		2081		2082		2083		2084		2085		2086		2087		2088		2089		2090		2091		2092		2093		2094		2095		2096		2097		2098		2099		2100	
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There's no place for second division teams

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The second division seems to have a side road that leads to Wembley. Over the last decade five of their representatives have found their way to the FA Cup final and yesterday's draw for the fourth round loomed as a large signpost ushering almost all of their survivors in the same direction.

Nine of the 16 hosts are from the second division, a remarkably high ratio that could yet be increased if Carlisle United, who have already won their replays at Fulham and Tottenham Hotspur respectively, are drawn away and they may find themselves at Carlisle.

By contrast, the first division contingent threatens to shrink even further. Six have already gone, three more are certain to leave the competition this week and several others at the end of the month. By chance, half a dozen of them will visit second division clubs.

Liverpool, for instance, may be even clearer favourites after the departure of Manchester United, but they will not reach going to the Goldstone Ground. Not only is their recent record against Brighton unusually poor but there are also uncomfortable echoes of Brighton's victory at Anfield in the fifth round last season.

That tie was played on a Sunday and so will this. The match will be covered by TTV on January 29 when Liverpool, who opened the third round day early against Newcastle United on BBC, will be appearing live on television for the third time in three weeks.

Nor is that the only threat of



An arch of triumph for Jayne Torvill as she and Christopher Dean practice to make perfect

Bolero receives some minor changes

From John Hennessy, Budapest

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean have paid scant attention to the doubts aroused by their Bolero free-skating programme at the British Ice Dance Championship in November. The routine they have brought here for the European championships bears little resemblance to the ordinary Bolero.

Indeed, their opening move, where they spend a half or minute or so on their knees, has been embellished by a development which has Miss Torvill sliding over her partner to back-bend on to the ice.

Their lifts, including the dramatic triple swing before they cast themselves into an imaginary volcano, remain intact. It is in some of the linking movements that minor improvements have been introduced.

A first view of the programme on the second rink, and under grave suspicion because of the lack of head room, left a doubt or two, but yesterday, in the competition arena before a gathering of knowledgeable spectators, the full emotional impact began to be felt. Kristina Regoczy, who preceded Torvill and Dean as world champion, with her Hungarian partner, Andras Salalay, thought it "absolutely fabulous".

Katarina Witt who will be one of the favourites for a title for East

England men mass to fight for caps

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

England have asked a big squad to attend a training camp at the Bisham Abbey on January 20-22, which means competition for places will be retained, if not magnified. There will be 24 players, with two more to be added on the Saturday night. The Leicester hooker and England captain, and Melville, the Wasp scrum half, both of whom have been asked to play for their clubs against Gloucester.

Both players are recovering from injuries after long spells out of action. Wheeler has not played since November 19 because of a broken thumb and hopes to play for one of Leicester's junior sides on Saturday. Melville has played two first-class games since recovering from a knee injury, which kept him out of the first half of the season, and should fit in two more before joining the England squad.

The England selectors will obviously be happier to know that all the players who have proved their fitness before they announce on January 23 the side to play Scotland on February 4. There can be few automatic choices.

All those players who finished last Saturday's trial will go to Bisham, with the exception of Rees, the Nottingham flanker who replaced Winterbottom during the game. So Barley, the Welsh centre, remains his place after taking over from Palmer, the unlucky Bath player who tore a rib cartilage.

In addition Knibbs, the Bristol centre, Cusani, the Orrell lock and Hall, the Bath flanker, all of whom were replacements last Saturday, will join the squad together with Underwood, the Leicester left wing whose presence should prove a spur for Barley as both seek to displace England's most capped wing-three quarter, Siemsen.

'A thousand reasons' for tour of S Africa

By David Hands

The South African Rugby Board's reason for an integrated tour, reiterated by Abie Williams, secretary of the South African Rugby Federation, yesterday. Mr Williams, assistant manager to the South African schools team who have just completed a six-match tour of Wales, suggested at a press conference in London that other countries should make a positive response to the efforts made in South Africa to create open sport in what remains a restricted society.

The visit of England to the republic in 1972, Mr Williams said, had helped towards a new period of integration in South Africa. The projected tour by England in May, which has yet to be confirmed, would give fresh momentum to the board's aims. "If they could tour in 1972, there are a thousand more reasons for them to tour now."

Mr Williams warned, however, that if England did not tour, then South Africa would have to reconsider its position. "We have to keep rugby alive in South Africa, we want to stay amateur, but we must not make the mistake of thinking that Mr Lord," (David Lord, the Australian who played for the professional tournament) "is flying a kite. The SARB are not the only ones interested in rugby in South Africa."

Mr Williams said there was mixed sport in private schools and it is his belief that the state schools will follow, in the foreseeable future. This clashes with the statement made by Mr J. G. van der Merwe, the Minister for Education, last August which suggested that segregation of races would continue in schools and in residential areas and that the coloured population, which Mr Williams is one - would continue to be denied the vote. But then the appointment of Mr Williams last June as sports coordinator for South African schools, which involves the normalization of sport, clashes with Dr Viljoen's statement.

It must, at least, be of benefit to those youngsters who represented the South African schools side that they have seen something of an open society while in Britain.

Drop in the South African Schools tour to South Africa, which was lost to West 7-13, at Mid-Glamorgan 15-6; lost to West 13-13, at Wales 10-6.

Robson may yet thank the Danes

By Clive White

Bobby Robson and his England players may yet have reason to think fondly of footballers from Denmark. The Football Association's acceptance yesterday of the dates for the Brazilian six-nation tournament means that England now have the opportunity to host their sagging international return in a tournament of possibly greater significance than the events in France in the same month.

Given that the World Cup is at the end of everyone's yellow brick road, the tournament, to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Brazilian Football Association, will provide vital signposts and experiences for the happenings two years hence in Mexico.

The Brazilians, by confirming the dates of June 9 to 20, indicated that they did not require the presence of the European champions, West Germany, who stepped into the European championship finals by beating 10 men from Albania 2-1.

The Brazilian fiesta will overlap by one week the European finals (June 12 to 27).

Brazil might have skimmed the cream off Europe but the defeated world champions, Italy, declined the opportunity and grounds for suicide after their humiliating fall from the grace of 1982. The Soviet Union's name was never mentioned.

The next World Cup hosts, Mexico, are the fifth team to accept and the reemerging youthful force of the Netherlands will probably be the sixth.

The most intriguing entrant is, of course, Argentina, whom with delicate seeding, will be kept apart from England in the early three-team group. England will probably be grouped with Brazil and Uruguay in Mexico in Rio de Janeiro, where the final will be staged between the top team from each group. The other group will play in São Paulo. "It is not a bad looking line-up," said Ted Croker, the secretary of the FA.

The FA yesterday confirmed the opening and closing dates for the 1984-85 season and there appears no room for more than a single clear weekend for the first division players needed by Robson. The league programme will begin in August 25 and end on May 11.

Schoolboy make draw

Paris (Reuters) - France, the first match of the two-week

and West Germany, the first match of the two-week tournament in Paris on June 12. The first round groups in the draw. West Germany, European champions in 1972, and 1980 and 1982, will play the number one team in the group. The second round will play the opening group in Strasbourg on June 14.

The European football (UEFA) organizing committee decided at a meeting here to decide the four teams: France, Spain and Yugoslavia, who both lost to West Germany in their final group matches of the four-team final of the four-qualifying matches last month, will play in the group. The other two teams will be determined by a draw which will be made by two schoolboy players from a Paris suburb.

Best to me comeback

George Best is to make a soccer comeback - this time in Northern Ireland.

The former Manchester United star has agreed to join 'B' division side Torquay United on a month's loan and officials of the Irish club London later this week to finalize the deal.

Best will be eligible for the FA Cup tie against Ballymena United - they are managed by Best's former Irish international colleague Jim Platt - to be played on January 28. It will be Best's first appearance in the cup. Best, aged 37, has made several previous soccer appearances, notably with Manchester United, Fulham, Hibernian, Cork Celtic, Stockport and Bournemouth.

Plymouth and Newport meet again with eye on the fifth round

The mists of lunacy fied in the midst of biological invective

On Saturday, Newport County and Plymouth Argyle were playing for the chance to clash at Wembley, perhaps, the mightiest men in the League. Tonight, after their 2-2 draw, they play again, and this time the prize is the honour of receiving, at Darlington, in the fourth round of the FA Cup.

It is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, it is disappointing not to have a tilt at one of the biggies... on the other hand, it is a stop either of these decent third division clubs from getting past Darlington, now eighteen in the fourth division? And in the fifth round, what dreams may come? But first the replay, ay, there's the rub.

For these are a pair of well-matched sides, and they battled hard to play decent football in defiance of the great mists of lunacy that hang over every FA Cup tie, and which at Home Park, Plymouth, came close to enveloping us all. I have had the pleasure of witnessing an awful lot of simple nonsense since I left off along the FA Cup trail in the first qualifying round, and a winner scored by a goalkeeper, and a triple sending-off high on the list, but last Saturday's match at England's most westerly League outpost was an

FOR THE RECORD

Supernovas 120, Portland Trail Blazers 110.			
National Association: Detroit Pistons 111, Milwaukee Bucks 100; Seattle SuperSonics 120, Los Angeles Lakers 110.			
Eastern Conference			
Philadelphia 76ers	W	L	GB
Washington Bullets	2	8	7 1/2
Philadelphia 76ers	19	15	7 1/2
Washington Bullets	17	16	5 1/2
New Jersey Nets	16	19	4 1/2
Central Division			
Milwaukee Bucks	W	L	GB
Detroit Pistons	19	15	5 1/2
Atlanta Hawks	16	18	5 1/2
Chicago Bulls	14	17	3 1/2
Indiana Pacers	10	22	3 1/2
Cleveland Cavaliers	10	23	2 1/2
Western Conference			
Los Angeles Lakers	W	L	GB
Phoenix Suns	19	15	5 1/2
Utah Jazz	12	22	6 1/2
Dallas Mavericks	16	20	6 1/2
Golden State Warriors	15	20	4 1/2
Kansas City Royals	14	19	4 1/2
San Antonio Spurs	13	22	3 1/2
Houston Rockets	13	22	3 1/2
Pacific Division			
Portland Trail Blazers	W	L	GB
Los Angeles Lakers	23	14	8 1/2
Golden State Warriors	17	18	4 1/2
Seattle SuperSonics	16	17	4 1/2
Phoenix Suns	12	22	3 1/2
San Diego Clippers	12	22	3 1/2
LACROSSE			
HEATON MERSEY SOO-A-SHORE TOURNAMENT: First: Cheslate 10, Melcor 6.			
HOCKEY			
EAST COUNTY LEAGUE: Lincolnshire 1, Cantonville 3; Suffolk 0, Hartfordshire 0.			
EAST-UDF COUNTY LEAGUE: Lincolnshire 0, Cantonville 0; Suffolk 0, Hartfordshire 1.			
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: R.A.F. 0, Sussex 2.			
LUSKINGHOUGH CUP: Quarter-finals: Chalfont St Giles 0, Richards Park 1; Slough 12, Parkenton Common 2.			
Second round: Twickenham 1, Old Willsboroughs 2; Sunbury Green 4, Boreham Wood 4; Hawks (new parables) 2, West Net Bank 2.			
CYCLING			
BREMSE: Bremen riders race after four years. D. Thurnau and A. Fritz (WAG 132; 2; J. Nieren) (WAG) and R. Phipps (WAG 170; 0) beat. D. Thurnau (WAG 170; 0) beat			

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Andrew Faulk from where he peddles his prayers and gimmicky religious gimmicks. The most political of all is Jerry Falwell, a confidante of President Reagan and a religious hawk if there ever was one. He is the founder of the Moral Majority, aimed to deliver the United States from the clutches of Marx, Darwin and Freud. These preachers, plus the international Christian Broadcasting Network, may be seen on our screens in the future – a thought that Mr Morris does not describe as "horrendous".

● Former *Lulu* star and *Top Gun* singer plays the title role in a new 12-part drama serial **THE DISTRICT NURSE** (BBC 1.7.10). Set in a South Wales

CHANNEL 4

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this first episode, at
observation of ruml

this first episode, at observation of rural life, the nurse, Megan Rees, is treated with suspicion as "stranger from North Wales." Because of this the work hard to be accepted in the community in opposition to the incumbent "witch" who slatternly, shrewish, played with deliciously. Deborah Manship. Rhiannon, the local GP, Dr O'Connell, reluctant to act on Nurse's warning of suspected "Tinkertown", the gypsy encampment on the edge of the village. A lively story-line remains to be seen whether Wales's confidence in the reality does warrant, and commissioning of another

4.00 News; Just after F

NE TEES As London e
10.25am Film
lude to Fame (Guy Rolfe). 11
D Sally and Jake. 1.20pm-1
s and Lookaround. 5.15-5.4
se Baby? 6.00 News. 6.02
roads. 6.25 Northern L

Emmerdale Farm. 12.15pm
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